

YOUR

COMMODORE

AN AMI UK SPECIALIST PUBLICATION

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BASIC ANALYSER

Basic programs revealed

REVIEWED

- Oxford Basic ■ Sketchpad 128

GAMES REVIEWED

- Deadenders ■ Middle Earth ■ 3D Pool
- Dennis ■ The Deep

UNBEATABLE PROGRAMS

- 6510 Assembler ■ Line Input
- Help Screen ■ Retriever



CONTENTS

VOLUME 5
NUMBER 9



FEATURES

• <i>Ideal Home</i> What do it at this famous exhibition	14	• <i>Spy Hunter</i> Popular arcade action	42
• <i>Oxford Basic</i> Expand your C64's Basic with this excellent product	22	• <i>Dessert</i> Superb arcade action	43
• <i>Deadenders</i> No guess for guessing what program this is a spoof of!	22	• <i>3D Pool</i> Computer pool as it should really look	44
• <i>War in Middle Earth</i> Adventuring in Tolkein's land	32	• <i>Bargain Bucket</i> The pick of this month's budget games	45
• <i>Super Cycle</i> Motor bike racing at its best	40	• <i>Disk Editing</i> Dive further into your disk drive	50
• <i>The Deep</i> Under-water arcade action	40	• <i>Epson SQ-2500</i> We conclude our look at Hayes printers	72
• <i>Grand Prix Circuit</i> Try your hand at Formula 1 racing	41	• <i>Sketch Pad 128</i> Does drawing in 80 columns really work?	74
• <i>Infiltrator</i> A second chance to fly with John 'Baby' McMillan	42		

REGULARS

• <i>Data Statements</i> More news from the world of Commodore	6	• <i>Extending Basic</i> Add your own commands to your C64	66
• <i>Letters</i> Your chance to let us know what you think	10	• <i>Tech Troubles</i> Your technical queries answered	70
• <i>First Steps</i> Help for new programmers	12	• <i>Routine Programming</i> Another handy subroutine to add to your growing library	76
• <i>Flow of Ideas</i> Write your own directory reader	29	• <i>Software for Sale</i> If you don't want to type it - Buy it!	78
• <i>Listings</i> This month's programs	35		

PROGRAMS

• <i>Reformer</i> Call up your disk menus with ease	18	• <i>Help Screens</i> Put your C64's HELP key to good use	38
• <i>Line Input</i> Improve on Basic's INPUT command	25	• <i>ASM Assembler</i> A powerful assembler for C64 owners	47
• <i>Program Analysis</i> Find out just what's happening inside your C64 programs	34		

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published for review we
cannot be held responsible for
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Free The Spirit

If there's one company above all the others that's trying to make your C16 more like an Amiga, it's Free Space Software. This American company goes to great lengths to produce good, high-quality graphic packages for the C16. Their latest offering is Poster Master 128, with wheelbarrow cartons holding up to 22 pages. You need 80 and duplex and a C16HD or C16B with the 64K video RAM upgrade. You can expand from 8, Standard 128, or Spectravideo 128. This is also an option for rendering, thereby enabling you to print in color!

Franchise: Free Space Software, PO Box 128, 38 Hobbs St, Encino, CA 91316 Tel 213 876 2809

Spirited Adventure

Good for Adventure
Guy: After much public pressure, Computer Software has released the classic Graphic Adventure Chapter. The new release will allow standard disk disk, serious adventure to be produced. This will mean that you can now create adventures of incredible size and complexity, restricted only by disk size. The release due for the evening of April 1988. It will retail at £39.95, but existing C64 holders may upgrade for a mere £10.00.

Franchise: Positive Software Ltd, Explorer One, Calleva Park, Aldershot, Hants GU1 4QR. Tel 0794 775388

Data Statements

Chris Forman
marketing manager
at Datachart with
the C16 range



Stop Press!

Datachart Software have just acquired the rights to two well established C16 programs for the C16 and C16B. Both were originally from AMS. The titles are Stop Press, and Stop Press with colour costing £19.95 and £29.95 respectively. Datachart software is a title that sits on the ground for the 64, 128, or well done Datachart.

Franchise: Datachart Soft-
ware Europe House, Al-
dershot, Hants GU1 4QR. Tel
0794 775388

Viva Gena

There is no quicker or easier way to present data than with a graph or chart, and GenChart is a simple and inexpensive way to produce good-looking graphs and charts. Version 2.0 is the third generation. Software has added yet another program to their ever growing array of Data utilities. GenChart is ideal for anyone that wants professional looking, informative and charts for each application needed to plan and draw graphic documents.

Like all the Gensoft applica-

comes. GeoChart is the total answer to what was 'got' format. That is, pull down menus, windows and icons. GeoChart is for the C64 and C128 owners.

Techline Systems Software, 2150 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley, California 94710 Tel 415 548 6883

GEOCHART

Windows-based software for Commodore 64 and Commodore 128



Price: \$195

Hubbub Hubbub

Electronic Arts have released their popular game *Crash Balling, Paperboy*, by adding a new round track from Rob Hubbard.

Rob, who left the UK in '86 to work in games California, has since been working on a major project. The work involves creating a code package that will allow new soundtrack to be produced. The drama, as we told, will be made over and over again for any product that requests a soundtrack.

Techline Electronic Arts, 2490 South Centre Drive, Suite 200, Long Beach, California 90810 Tel 310 494 0942



Rob Hubbard - come on rock

Watch Out

Micropro are about to launch an update on your screen with *Never Dead*, a 3D game packed with action. You are a member of the Blue US Navy Team, the anti-infrared commandos, who are experts in sabotage, demolition, reconnaissance and infiltration. So that you don't

mess the boat, a New Deal Digital Watch (Right) will be given away with every copy purchased. The calendar should be in early April, at an suggested price of £12.99 on disk.

Techline Microsystems, 2 Market place, Tisbury, Wiltshire SP2 8DS Tel 025 8265 5210



Make a Stand

Have you needed less deskcomputer? Everyone's got a reason! Well, here goes. From MDS of Hemel Hempstead comes the MDPS 730 printer stand. Of all the peripherals, printers seem to cause the most positional headaches, but this new stand could solve all your problems. Although the £294 price tag may put you off it is, and I quote "uniquely designed to achieve maximum efficiency and part of a complete performance modular desk

system which occupies 120mm wide, 118mm high and 75mm deep, to an 18 inch cabinet on the top, making the one suitable for both top and bottom feed printers". The other good point is the extensive cable management system incorporated into the unit - no more wires and cables need get in the way.

Techline, 2003 Industrial Way Ltd, Faversham, Kent ME12 6QG Tel 0425 210407



Chang At Waterloo

Powers of Restricted Growth, everybody's first year chance to get your own back! The latest offering from SSI includes the 128k Gold which you can increase the powers of Sheets' Backstage and change the colour of history Called Master of Suspicion.

A restoration of the program allows you to either right histories, Shepbooks, Wars, or simply create your own. We are assured that these features are substantially increased in every detail, with many changes being bandits, assassins, and factions. Priced at £24.99 for the C64, the game offers good value.

Franklin & S. Gold, Dept
7/F, Holland Way, Bedford
Bedfordshire MK4 1AT Tel
023 256 1283

Special Relationship

News has reached us of a bilateral deal between Krasno and Action West

the outcome of which should prove beneficial to all you game players. The deal means that Krasno will market ARI software here in the U.K. and ARI will market Krasno overseas. The first product off the press was *Prusa*, which was released on March 10th for the Amiga ST and Amiga.

The Hammy Hamsters

Faces and Fancies can make people sit up and wonder what's going on. Howard Hughes became a movie star, Mr. Bean bought a name factory, and Mr. Wilson engaged every conceivable form of dance. Now it's the turn of the Darling family. Not content with producing both possible budget software, they have assembled brokers out onto stage to help promote their latest release, Rock Star, they've formed a group which, for reasons best known to themselves, is called The Hammy Hamsters. Judging by the picture I have, which Hamster IV has as a pet?

Franklin Code Masters

Laptops Ltd, 100a
Pine House, Stowmarket,
Suffolk, IP17 1DE Tel 0673 814121

Hit The Jackpot At The Commodore Show!

Amiga Airlines

Buyers of Commodore's "Amiga Art Miles Pack" will be receiving free air miles along with their software. The package offers an Amiga 300, a TV modulator, three new games (Space Raider, Nebula and StarFight), comprehensive paint package and 300 lire in airline airfare (£100/£99.99). The offer will give Commodore customers the chance to book return flights to a number of European cities, including Paris and Amsterdam. All flight vouchers will be valid until March 1990, and can be easily redeemed via the special Commodore Air Miles Hotline as well as local travel agents.

TechHouse, Commodore
Personal Machines (UK) Ltd,
Commodore House,
The Brooklands, Godalming,
Surrey GU7 5RA Tel 0803/710494

Commodore are giving away £100 worth of computer equipment to the Amiga user with the most innovative and unusual use for his machine. A nationwide search has been launched to discover as many weird and wonderful applications for the Amiga as possible, and entries will be judged by a panel of experts at the Commodore Computer Show, which opens at the National Exhibition Centre on April 3.

The show itself has been revamped by Database Exhibitions, and will now include sections on making money, graphics, Commodore magazines (including, of course, PC) and game writing. Best The Amiga competitions are also planned, so which producer will be able to take on "coded" machines and try to beat them at their own game? But one of the big highlights of the show will undoubtedly be the nationwide competition.

Contingent has already discovered a wide variety of uses for the Amiga, from backtracking to hunting on horses, and has even heard of one user who used his machine to train his reptiles on his machine! If you feel you can think of some innovative applications, all you need to do is write a brief description no more than 500 words and send it in, along with any necessary support material on disk, to:

The Editor,
four Commodore,
Amiga House,
Breakfast Way,
Harrow, Middlesex HP2
7ET

Entries should reach us
before May 1st



Mailbag

Your chance to air your views on Your Commodore

I have just received a Commodore PET 2001 Computer from a friend. With it was a 1050 Dual Drive and 40227P1 Processor. I was wondering if you or one of your readers had any information on software availability. Please send any information to me, thank you
H.M. Creek, 29 George Road, Bromley Down, Basingstoke, RG27 9AE

Hi H.M. I had that off a great waste in those days.

Could you possibly include them with disk or some way? If so, which disk should be used, or can I send them somewhere to be done?
J. Osborne, Luton, Beds

Our reply

The answer John or just Please address can be replied if you get a copy of Micro Computer Mag., you will find a few advertise the service every week.

Dear VC

With three C64 disks, I have had some booting problems. The fault lies not with my drives, but rather with the programs, when they seek memory on top of each other. I have found that "Validating" the disk information seems to cure the problem.

I don't know what percentage of failures are related but the tip may help in some way.
J.V. Piddock Wood, Teignbridge, Devon

Our reply

Thank you for this helpful article. We do get some reports about disks and many of them are caused by disk corruption.

Unfortunately, many users and boot loaders do not read the disk directly.

Dear VC

I have been compositing over 1000s the Commodore 64 was first produced. In this time I have bought various computer magazines, mostly 16-format, and I've noticed various discrepancies between reviews of the same game. For instance, Tazza received 30 out of 100 from one test, but 97.5 from another.

The trouble with two completely different results is which could I believe? Do I take the above of magazine A and stay clear of it, or do I take B's advice and selling TV so that I can buy A?

The best advice I can give is to try and get out the reviewer's name. Some reviewers are there longer the high, and as a general rule I come up to them occasionally, that gives it a point write up.

A recent review of Diamondback is a good example of this. One review of the game said: "The graphics at this point (Level 1 stage 1), were very disappointing - the buildings are just flat squares."

Persönally, I think the graphics are very good. Okay, the first stage on each level is bloddy, but you can't really expect heroic graphics now can you? It would be much too slow. Anyway, you've always got stages 2 and 3 in each level to make up for it.

Another annoying game is "Mazejam". You know the kind of thing: "The Q button doesn't work, so you have to use the F1 key". A good example of this can be found in the recent review of Thunderblade. The reviewer said: "Unfortunatly, it is hard to find any difference between versions and unre-

garded versions." There are two possible reasons for this - (A) the Heronsoft disk, disk drive was faulty or (B) that copy of the game was faulty. These are the only possibilities, as my copy of the game is fine apparently.

In conclusion then, what do you do if two reviews differ? The first option is to see if you can have a demonstration of the program, therefore allowing you to make up your own mind. The second option is to simply take a chance.
N. Kingsey, Chichester, West Sussex

Our reply

Thanks for such a long and detailed letter, however, I think you're missing the point (to do a lot of people). Reviews of software do not differ from my other form of criticism, like film, food, football, records, food, flicks etc.

The whole point here is this - the comments passed are the comments of that particular person, NOT the comments of a professional critic. For example, I personally have never liked Elton, but for 1.3 million other users it is the best programme ever.

Criticism, for me, influences are the people that produce decent software, but for thousands of people would not agree. Similarly, one must remember that a reviewer's comments are his own personal opinions. At times we'd really like you what our objective is and how the game plays. There is only one problem that can never be resolved and that is taste.

I have recently gone a PET 2001, a 1050 Dual Drive and a 4030 Printer together with four good software packages complete with manual and dosplus, where necessary. I only want to use the PET for wordprocessing, and so I am writing out an appeal. Is there anyone out there that has a program for the 2001 that they don't need? If so, please contact me at my address. Thank you.
S. Simpson, 4 Goldsmiths Avenue, Danbury, East Sussex

Come on now everyone, we know there are plenty unused machines out there ready to resurrect and there who can help!

Dear VC

I have anything that can be done with old printer

MIXING

WITH

L, E, I, S, U, R, E

Business

WILL BE A REAL

EDUCATION

Commodore *computer show*

Britain's brightest event for Commodore computer users is back! And there's more to see than ever before.

This show has more than three dozen areas of the major uses to which Commodore machines are put. There are over 100 computer stands exhibiting their latest products, which means that you should everything that's new in the Commodore world will be shown!

Business

Many companies are finding that a less serious and less expensive way to increase the financial performance of Commodore computers.

As well as displays for the C64 and Amiga systems, you'll find lots of the most important news for the growing business Commodore PC computer market.

And you'll find all the latest software covering all aspects of using Commodore machines in your business.

Leisure

The C64 and Amiga computers are the most powerful and easiest ways by producing lots of fun ready-made games. The range of new software on show

Novotel Exhibition Complex,
Hammersmith, London W6

Friday to Sunday

June 2 to 4

From 10am Friday & Saturday, 10am-4pm Sunday

will demonstrate how these machines, given a computer keyboard, produce better and more effective games with superb graphics.

If you're a keen participant, you'll find there's no limit to what you can do - just get involved and have fun!

Education

Commodore owners are now used as educational tools of over the world. With the development of BBC Basic, the Amiga, and the release of Computer Works, schools using TV pictures with text and graphics - the range of educational applications is extensive.

At the show you'll see how the latest software

packages are making real breakthroughs in the educational sector - and be able to try them out for yourself.

Special Events

We'll be open 10 days and 1000 people - yes, I do mean 1000! Come along to our exhibition and maybe you'll chance to talk with some of those other users from all over the world.

So far as prove they may, whether you want to see what the future holds for Commodore computers, to buy the latest software or to get advice on specific applications, the Commodore show is the place to go. And if you need a break today, we'll knock £1 off the price of each ticket!

■ For the first time we're offering a family ticket for just £14, including entry for two adults and two children - saving up to £7 off the usual entry price!

How To Get There

By Underground: Hammersmith (District), Notting Hill Gate (Circle).
By Bus: 26, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34.
Car parking facilities available at the Novotel.

Advanced ticket order

Commodore
computer show

POST 10, Commodore Computer Show,
PO Box 2, Chiswick Park,
London W4 4SD. Tel: 081 562 0624

Cheque payable to Novotel Exhibitions
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£ _____

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£ _____

Family ticket (2 adults + 2 children) £25.00 (over 16) £18.00

£ _____

Postage and handling £1.00
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Assumes ticket is valid
for admission to Westminster, May 24

Postcode _____

Postcode (please ring Royal Mail Building, 100-102
Westgate, Canterbury, Kent ME1 1AA) _____
Telephone number (please print) _____
Please quote and complete order ref. no. _____

A002



How to make sense of Listings By Norman Doyle

Typing listings in can be much more of a nuisance than it need be. At Your Commodore, we are aware that sometimes the programs seem difficult or even mysterious. Our Listings with their System Checks and special endings may ease the way but sometimes more support is required.

Many programs are based on several parts and each part uses the same type machine. How is this possible and how do you set about typing them in?

First of all it should be explained that a set of these programs form a suite which operates in unison. The way to use them is to type in the first program and save it. Now the computer should be cleared by entering NEW or even by switching the computer off and on.

Proceeding to the second listing, the program is again typed in and saved. If you're saving the programs on tape you should ensure that the programs are saved immediately after the first one. For disk users, it doesn't matter where it is saved so long as it is

on the same disk as the first program. After checking that all has been saved safely, the machine is again initialised using NEW as the power switch.

Any subsequent programs should be treated in the same way as the second listing and the result will be a string of programs. One word of caution which should be heeded is that the programs should be saved under the name given in their Commodore because each program automatically uses one of these names to load in the next program in the string.

Suite Confusion

One question which we're often asked is why these multi-part programs are needed. The answer is that they are a memory-saving or time-saving measure.

Many programs are redefined characters, machine code patches and sprites. The information for the box to be packed into position because they rarely occupy memory locations which these use. This difficulty can be overcome in either of two ways:

The data can be packed into positions such that the program is loaded and forms an integral part of the program. This has the disadvantage of the size of the program takes to move the data in but, more importantly, reduces the amount of space for the main program itself.

Another way of alleviating this space result is to use a series of set-up programs before the main program is loaded. These are loaded and run in turn and each one packs information into memory where it cannot be reached by any subsequent loading system. Consequently, once the programs has done its job it is no longer needed and the program can even be removed by typing in NEW without causing the effect of the main program while it is eventually loaded.

One thing that you cannot do is to switch the computer off and on again. This action totally clears the memory, including the data which has been packed in.

When the first program has done its job, the next program is loaded normally and run. Now there are two

blocks of data looked away safely. This continues until the final program is loaded. Then is the main program which holds the key to unlocking and using the data which the previous programs purchased. The fact that each of the programs may have contained the same key sequence is really irrelevant because it's often just program data and not how it does it. It's a little like receiving a birthday card and an anniversary card; they both carry the same address but the effect they have on the mind is totally different!

Gift Boxes

Although this system solves the problem of memory space, it does not save time and a long program session is likely to force you to save the data in question. One way to overcome this is to create a program which not only copies the data into position, but also saves the part data block afterwards.

These alternative programs or basic loaders to give them their correct name, are quite common and well worth exploring. The process can be

quite complicated so we'll take the case of a single program first.

As usual, the program is typed in and saved before running it. Next a new tape or disk should be placed at the storage device. Now when the program runs it will write the data back onto the new tape or in a different form. The new program will be loaded directly into memory without the need for a basic program to point it there. These programs usually have to be started with a SYS command and once checked, the program that was originally typed in can be forgotten and erased.

The basic program is rather like a gift box which becomes useless once the contents have been removed.

A program of this kind which is repeated over parts is immediately recognisable because the master program is at the end of the file. If this is so then it should be typed in and saved. If it is a basic loader it must be treated differently.

Spot The Loader

A basic loader can be recognised by

the reuse of DATA statements which must be typed in. Another indicator is the absence of the usual programs, excluding the DATA statements, which when run contain a FOR-NEXT loop separated by complex FOR statements.

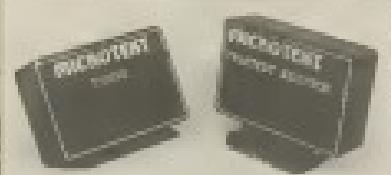
If the main program proves to be a basic loader it should be typed in and saved but when it runs it must run a separate task or tape should be already in the tape device.

After dealing with the main program, any subsequent parts should be typed in and then saved to the first tape or disk. On running, the resultant program should be saved on the second tape immediately after the preceding part.

Basically, the rule to remember is that any programs which have duplicated line numbers cannot reside in memory at the same time. They should be typed in and saved separately according to the instructions given in the relevant User-Commodore article or the ROM statements in the listings themselves. Stick to the rule and you'll never go wrong with loaders.

TELETEXT

A world of information at your fingertips



Teletext has probably got 1000 hours more free time than any friend information service and unlike a Teletext TV you can print pages like today! The easy to use interface allows you to search, sort and filter to access Teletext data from your own private personal address book. Contact Charles and Charles pounds hundreds of hours of news, sport, politics, weather, TV and experts every day, to keep you up-to-date in no time.

The Microtext Telephone Adapter fits on the telephone jack and connects to the Teletext equipment via an adapter. The Microtext Adapter is an RS232-C port which is a standard serial port for most computers.

The Microtext Adapter is only £79.95. Adapter and Taxes are £109.95 including VAT and p&p.

NEW Upgrade

Not Upgrades allows your C64 Microtext Telephone to be connected to the Amstrad and various computers with Delta Pi Software Ltd.



MICROTEXT

Dept. MC 2, P.O. Box 120, Wimborne, Dorset DT1 1EP
Telephone (01251) 330364

OPTIONAL COMMODORE PARALLEL PORT

Part No.	Description	Price
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100-000000000003	Parallel Port with 64K RAM	£199.95
100-000000000004	Parallel Port with 128K RAM	£229.95
100-000000000005	Parallel Port with 256K RAM	£259.95
100-000000000006	Parallel Port with 512K RAM	£289.95
100-000000000007	Parallel Port with 1M RAM	£319.95
100-000000000008	Parallel Port with 2M RAM	£349.95
100-000000000009	Parallel Port with 4M RAM	£379.95
100-000000000010	Parallel Port with 8M RAM	£409.95
100-000000000011	Parallel Port with 16M RAM	£439.95
100-000000000012	Parallel Port with 32M RAM	£469.95
100-000000000013	Parallel Port with 64M RAM	£499.95
100-000000000014	Parallel Port with 128M RAM	£529.95
100-000000000015	Parallel Port with 256M RAM	£559.95
100-000000000016	Parallel Port with 512M RAM	£589.95
100-000000000017	Parallel Port with 1G RAM	£619.95
100-000000000018	Parallel Port with 2G RAM	£649.95
100-000000000019	Parallel Port with 4G RAM	£679.95
100-000000000020	Parallel Port with 8G RAM	£709.95
100-000000000021	Parallel Port with 16G RAM	£739.95
100-000000000022	Parallel Port with 32G RAM	£769.95
100-000000000023	Parallel Port with 64G RAM	£799.95
100-000000000024	Parallel Port with 128G RAM	£829.95
100-000000000025	Parallel Port with 256G RAM	£859.95
100-000000000026	Parallel Port with 512G RAM	£889.95
100-000000000027	Parallel Port with 1T RAM	£919.95
100-000000000028	Parallel Port with 2T RAM	£949.95
100-000000000029	Parallel Port with 4T RAM	£979.95
100-000000000030	Parallel Port with 8T RAM	£1009.95
100-000000000031	Parallel Port with 16T RAM	£1039.95
100-000000000032	Parallel Port with 32T RAM	£1069.95
100-000000000033	Parallel Port with 64T RAM	£1099.95
100-000000000034	Parallel Port with 128T RAM	£1129.95
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The Case of the Electronic Home

Holmes. You get a letter from a distraught man asking you to investigate the future of the electronic home, but I don't know how to go about the job. 'Well Watson you can always pop down to the furniture exhibition at Earls Court and see what's new.' That's *Modern Homes* [1986 issue, 15].

So it was that our two stalwart detectives were off in search of clues as to how long it would be before everything in the house could be operated at the flick of a switch.

When they arrived at the show, though they were in for something of a surprise. Whereas even a couple of years before, every machine was being bravely presented as the all-singing, all-dancing model with more lights and buttons than you knew what to do with, this year's displays were much more minimalist in design. It was as if it was assumed that the machines could do every thing that was asked of it, and it was simply left at that.

There are two distinct problems here, said Holmes. 'To start with, you will notice that just about every machine, from cassette to washing machine, has a keypad, which in turn gives the user access to a plethora of functions. But although the machines may appear to have all those extra facilities, he doesn't actually use many of them. After all, just about every night compact disc players let you programme tracks in any order that you want. But who in their right mind is going to mess about with the order of the movements in a Mozart symphony?'

The second problem is that nothing is compatible unless you want to join one manufacturer. So the cassette machine with separate remote control handset for the television, video and hi-fi. None of them will run on his dishwasher, and he can only use them over a limited range. What is needed is some all-powerful control system.

Leaving aside his relentless search for the dreaded Moriarty, Mr Sherlock Holmes and his old friend Dr Watson visit the Ideal Homes exhibition and discover that 221B Baker Street is not all that it should be...

By Gordon Hamlett



'Notice that all the display houses have a "study" mentioned,' Watson. 'The idea of people working more and more from home persists, even though there is little evidence to suggest that it is actually happening. It proves that computers are still regarded as toys until they prove their three magic letters: IBM. Watson will have seen taught to us as they have done in

America. Because, no house should be without its own personal computer.'

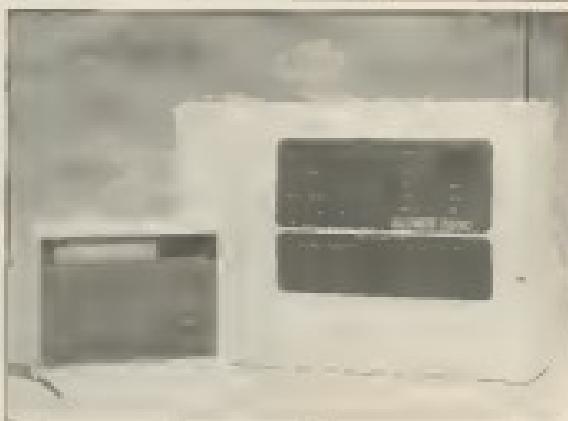
'If we are not very careful, Watson, you and I could soon be out of a job. The one major area of expansion in the electronic field is in security systems. I see that Modern Alarms are offering a wide free programmable system - very unusual, as it allows up the dimensions and it can be taken



with you where you move. And every type of alarm imaginable is born: magnetic contacts, heat radio, sound detector, breaking glass, infra red beams and those coming along. There are even personal accelerometers.

How is the burglar supposed to get past that barrier, and if there are no criminals, then what are we to do? Ah, that is something that would beat even me. A crackpot that costs additional locking system. Remember that case of the dog that didn't bark in the night? The owner would have really cracked up that story.

I can find no trace of relevance here. Politics! It looks as if we will have to put up with Mrs. Huxley's hyperkerplings for at least another year. This is one field that has advanced, not progressed so quickly as everybody anticipated, although I still hear rumours that two of the biggest fast food chains are bidding to be the first



to get their customers served by automation.'

At last, Watson, I think that we have found who we are looking for. A system that will control every domestic appliance in the house and which can be operated either from the central processing unit from a handset or, most importantly, via a telephone link. Just think of it. Being able to phone home if you are out on a walk and instruct the video to record 'Conversation and Poetry'?

I see that the system - Criscom from Costa - works by means of a series of transmitters placed in every appliance. It then communicates with the central processing unit using existing mains circuitry. There's even a little display panel as well, so that you keep addresses and other data as well as being able to check up on your power and usage rates. That would have been useful in the Blackpool case.

We would be able to locate the burglarisation in every room in the house, saying it all and where we are for. Lighting could be similarly controlled, ranging from individual lamp upwards. Imagine being able to turn on the kitchen light from your bed when you had forgotten to do so. All your alarm-mounted security devices could be checked easily, although it would leave the impact of my detective powers at 1 know beforehand exactly who had turned up at my front door.

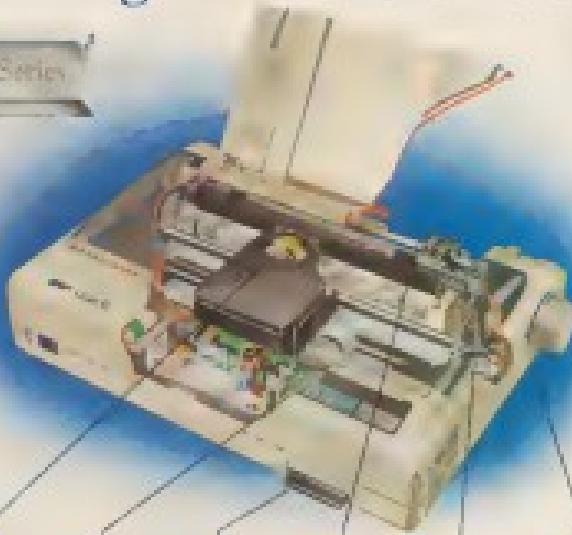
'Coming on the cooker during the wash-up in the middle of the night and searching for records of my beloved violin meant to start playing in time as I walked through the door. And all available in the next couple of years for about a thousand pounds.'

This has got to be the way forward sir Watson! That is where the future of the electronic house lies. It doesn't matter what kinds of appliances you've got, they can all be controlled from the one system. I would guess there as well be hearing of many more such control systems in the next few years, each offering more and more features and with the price coming down all the time.

'There's only one thing left for us to investigate now, Watson, and that is to find out what is on the intergalactic television show? "What's so special about the yellow door Holmes?" It's a question entry my dear Watson' (Boris says: 'Watson, no more phone - a straight Ed)'



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L The LQ-210i is compatible with almost every computer's serial interface, the system is an economic and reliable standard equipment in almost every office. But no doubt, should others be included, the connection over longer distances, there is more the option of an additional interface.

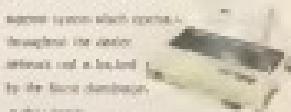
2 Putting the LQ-210i works makes it simpler. At the most basic of function, the feed control panel has one choice; any type of eight weighted letter qualified character can

print. As with other printers, it offers both double and quad page prints for long documents.

3 Print 210 characters in one second and that's just the start. The LQ-210i will also produce a duplex print via rapid paper-shifting, a special item which the previous machines didn't have. Moreover, just while you print, the 76 user buffers are ready for PL, or group-wise printing.

4 No other printer gives you this much paper space. From 10 feet to 100 feet, total paper capacity is 200, better yet, because continuous paper prints, feeding paper up to 10 inches at a time. Another unique feature you won't find in any printer is the LQ-210i's unique range of print widths. All these come with the option of shadow, under and over shadowed letters to match the documents of art.

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Returner

Return to the menu at any time with this ingenious program

The problem of keeping records of what's on your disk was addressed in Computer Bulletin Vol 1, No 2 (See Feb 84) by Bruce Shuler. This useful utility allowed you to load any program down from the menu, but to return to MENU you had to add the load statement to each program on the file which it can't do, but usually means putting short questions in and having to end the running up of the programs. You could also do it by pressing **Rmn** keys and reloading "MENU", but that's rather a waste of time.

The program Returner allows you to have a program at any point or time, and return to the menu to select an alternative program without all the problems outlined above.

On loading and executing the "RETURNER" program code, the first job that it does is to set up the "RESTORE" key and automatically load a MENU.

Obviously, for the program to work correctly you must have a "MENU" program on your disk. We have published quite a few such programs in the past. Alternatively, you could write one of your own. To get the best results, it is advisable to have at least two, if not more, programs on your menu.

Once you have your menu prepared correctly, you select which program you want to run. On running the selected program, you can press the "RESTORE" key at any time to return to your MENU program.

If the returner won't work

There are two reasons why Returner may not work:

1. The program in memory is using the INT0 interrupt, or it is replacing the interrupt vector to normal values. You need to alter your program (if possible) so that it's not using the INT0 interrupt.

N.B. The INT0 interrupt values are located at 182-183/018-019.

2. The memory location where "Returner" is located is being used by the program being run. See solution below.

Program checker

This program will provide you with alternative memory locations to hold the "Returner" program. Load "CHECKER" and run. This will give the following instructions as screen:

```
First Type in N
Then Load Menu, Load A, File, A,
Run:
Load Menu, Load Another File Reset
Request Until all Files Loaded
Load Checker & Type Y
Here You Wished Below?
```

When running "Checker" will show a blank screen and processing complete. This will take approximately three minutes and then show on the screen:

```
Ready,
Load "Menu"?
```

Press Return Run the menu, then load first file. Then next programme by pressing RUNSTOP & RESTORE (or by using a Reset keystroke). Do not smash the computer off it as

Reload the menu, then load the next program. Then wait as before and continue until all files have been loaded. Once all the programs on the disk have been run, reload "CHECKER", run, and type in Y in the question:

Program given to output to printer as well as screen. The result of the program is a list of all memory locations available for execution of the program instance. You can select the desired position to place Returner if no space available it will tell you so. (Returner cannot be accommodated on that disk.)



To change the position of memory

Load "EDIT" 3 and run

The screen will ask for the new start address. You can enter it in hex or Decimal numbers. (The Checker program provides location values to choose).

Once entered press return.

The screen will then ask you to enter which file you want to be automatically loaded when you press the RESTORE key. If not MENU, then alter to your own requirements - press Return.

The screen will then ask what name you wish to give the Returner program. Put your own name in. The screen will then ask "Are You Sure?"

Returner



If not, type N, if you see, type Y. It returns you to the beginning of the screen, and you will have to re-enter memory location no. When you type Y, it will save the newly-named program to disk.

Starting up your computer

When you start up your computer, you normally load and run the programs you stored and saved above. It will automatically recall the RESTORE key function and run the program you stored to be first loaded (see above).

I recommend that it is the same as putting the RESTORE key will automatically return you to this program and the computer is switched off.

Note: A good place to put the "Returner" program in memory is 300 (3204), as it is not normally used when using data. It refers to the tape drive slot, so you won't be able to use the tape drive.

If you have a disk-based game, Returner can be used to restore the game by saving it to automatically load it as the first part of the game to

put off no program (as above). The new program may, however, have a basic line inserted at the beginning, e.g. 10 SYS32800.

Addition to Returner instructions

It is not recommended to press RESTORE during the use of the disk drives or printer, as the screen may not work properly if you do so.

If you need to press RESTORE while the printer or disk is in use and the screen doesn't work properly, then press RESTORE again and the screen should work properly.

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Oxford Basic

*Despite its name,
this is a computer with
several very interesting
features.*

By Norman Shanks

The *QBasic* Best package is a series of four programs designed to get the best from Basic and beyond. The main part of the program is a command compiler but, before using the service, the program has to be explained.

At the beginning of the whole process, a good set of stations can keep things up and keep it all real. Oxford Banjo's "Tinocket" has some high moments also in 49152, and others less so, especially when we're scattered elsewhere.

One glaring omission is an automatic line-numbering command, and another is a command to make the structure of a NEW or a REVERB a preprint after a recol. It's only my opinion of course, but if all these missing commands would have been included an otherwise comprehensive package

Vital Statistics

The Analyst can really put aside a program and figure out every possible value and measurement that the programmers could think about. It takes a little time for the program to be used at first, but the result is worthwhile, because there are seven options available for analysis afterwards.

A Flow Cross-Reference revealed the following facts about the program:

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
John Doe	123 Main Street	555-1234
Jane Doe	456 Elm Street	555-2345
Bob Smith	789 Oak Street	555-3456
Susan Smith	210 Pine Street	555-4567
David Johnson	345 Cedar Street	555-5678

The first number on the QSO card
written in the box that is crossed each
time the box number that follows are the
boxes which will be checked.

When a Data Cross-Reference is called, the variables are listed, followed by the last sentence, where they appear.

1997-1998-1999-
A

As a program is developed, it's easy to forget to delete lines which are no longer needed. The Deadwood Audit program allows you to scan through your programs to find lines that will never be executed. The offending lines are then listed, and a "deadwood-free" listing generated if requested.

Another improvement to make through the *Class Reader* file option, which generates a short program to activate all of the variables used in the program. The file is then saved and can be MERGED with the main body of the program later using the Testfile. Initialization may now be conducted at the LET command, but it also actually improves the speed at which the program operates.

When a variable is encountered in a program, the computer checks through the list of existing variables to see if it's a new entry, or a modification of an existing one. If the label proves to be a new one, it is tagged onto the end of the current variable list. This enables a valuation of degree of memory movement and consistency within lists.

Added to this, a variable which is commonly used may be at the end of the list, which means that the routine has to look through the full list before the current value of the desired variable is determined. The greater a basic program needs these two pointers by removing spaces for the variables in descending order of frequency right at the beginning of the program.

A list of program statements can be displayed so that memory and variable usage can be recorded. The Generate button option also generates output files such as the number of lines used, QWORDs and QWORDS as well as the total memory of variables and arrays.

debugged the original program before
submitting it to the journal.

Another utility which can aid debugging was already devised for hybrid programs which requires parameters to be accessed by a machine code path. Variables and arrays are passed differently so the compiled program as key associated code routines have to be modified. This yields a library of routines which access current variable values because the memory location of variable data is found in a compiled program. REPORT is a utility which uses the original program and produces a table of variable locations to ease the problem of conversion.

User Protection

Why, in the dry and age of colour photocopiers and cameras, do soft-wired houses need to have traditional colour charts? I don't mind protection systems, but I object to the fuses because I am red-green colour blind and the circuit-breakers always seem to trip on me. The question is, what's the answer?

colours on these charts. Why black, white, red and yellow don't fit either.

In this case the problem is somewhat like this: much of the basic program is irreducibly presented. In the end, I got so annoyed that I resorted to backing up the program using a carriage-copy - as much for convenience as anything else.

Despite this, the package receives a very high rating throughout all four sections. Majorities of those under the NORMS had been used, the overall social norms have more correspondence in the manual, but the component is perfect and this example is comparable, though slightly reduced, to Superstition's *How Much Has to Happen*, which also doesn't fit the entire three packages which make this package stand out because the assessment

TopTen Commands

CHANGE
DELETE
HELP
END

INFO
MESSAGE
QUIT
RENUMBER
SIZE
TYPE

Another Option

Flow cross-section
Data group selection
Estimate core diameter
Bendwidth analysis
Create header file
Generate plots
Return to Main

Computer Functions

Bivariate species-area and species-richness
Curves for vascular plants

On-Camp Facilities

Majority of these 2.0 recommendations
Four point operations
Error checking
Location of variables, procedures

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```

10 PRINT "PROG"
20 PRINT "RUN IT"
30
40 GOTO 80
50 RUN
60 LINE MISSING! HELP!!

```



Line Input

*Improve your 64's input
with this handy utility*

There are times when the standard BASIC keyword "INPUT" can be a bit of a pain. In the event that a command C, "I" needs to be input as part of a string, "INPUT"

cannot do it, because the command is interpreted as being a delimiter between different lines of data which are supposed to be assigned to separate variables.

If you wanted to enter such a string this at the 164 is let indicated by quotes so that "INPUT" will read in every character. This looks ugly on the screen, and is very confusing for users

of the program who are not familiar with the technique - they can't understand why some text has to be enclosed in quotes in order to enter strings containing commas, whereas other forms of input such as numeric data does not. It's even more confusing when the program later requires that the user use the comma to separate input over different fields!

The other slightly aggravating thing about "INPUT" is the fact that the "?" prompt is always printed on the screen prior to "INPUT", waiting for keyboard entry. That is, remember, a carriage return, takes the carriage which takes the input on the part of the user is not always a valid when a question mark at the end is received - that is, it is not a question. Add to this, the need to follow it with quotes, and then note that the repeat quotes again so you can see the cursor move keys to end the line - just as a colon can be included when required in the input string, and straight away we already have two unprintable characters on the screen before anything is actually typed in.

What's more, you always forget to use the opening quotes at the start which could suggest that you don't feel inclined to leave them off then. The situation is worse when repeating from an external channel. Here not only the contents but also the colon and asterisk colon are interpreted as carriage return, or the end of the string, whereas a normal line it may be nothing of the sort. Again, enclosing the string in quotes helps a bit since to the external device prevents this, but on repeating it back the quotes will have disappeared. In either case, whether repeating from the keyboard or an external device, quotes cannot be included as part of the text. But why not, you may ask?

"GET" will input anything from the keyboard, and a string comprising all printable characters can be built up using "PUT". But the Basic coding required to accommodate all the strings of the same time rapidly becomes unwieldy, and slow. Also, the repeat is not automatically reduced to the screen, so the result has to be cleared. There's no flushing control either.

A cursor can be forced, but it has the peculiar behaviour of leaving some characters in inverted video as soon as the cursor move keys are used. "GET" can be used to input text from an external device, but using Basic constructs that accepts dot characters of a line and builds it into a string can be more cumbersome to say the least. It's frustrating when all you want is input some text of an "unusual" format.

If you're a machine code programmer of any ilk, then there can be got around, except that you may find yourself having to re-develop the ability to read the requirements of different programs. But if you want

to stay in the Basic environment then while "GET" and "Input" P have their place found are very good at what they do; what is really needed is a new Basic keyword, one that will accept strings of all printable characters.

Well, there is an Input, as it happens, by the IBM PC BASIC. An action keyword of the same name for the unit is called "LINE INPUT". It ends in the form of a machine code sequence stored in \$C4C0 to \$C4ED high up in the free RAM area above the 64% BASIC interpreter. It is used here as it is not a real keyword at all, but a "SYS" call which allows for programming to be no interpretation.

This is necessary because of the sort of awkwardness that the routine needs in order to carry out its task. The "USR" function, like allowing one memory location to be passed on to a machine code routine which then can only return one value as a variable. The temporary register storage for "SYS" calls are often being recycled so you need to use one of those any way, as because "LINE INPUT" P must return a string as a string variable.

The simple answer is for the routine "LINE" to read the parameter direct from the current Basic line being processed using the subroutine "CHARSET", which retrieves the next BASIC byte until it encounters and also immediately in the thing last single quote not a quote. It exactly the same way as all the interpreter routines get their information. This makes "LINE INPUT" very easy to program in Basic because if you enclose the parameter of the word "SYS" in the front it will appear at the beginning of the operation, like a valid Basic keyword. Furthermore, if you make a numeric variable equal to the "SYS" call address, and name the variable "LINE", the subroutines will be complete. The syntax then is as follows:

```
SYS < address > INPUT
(< < channel : No > > ) < string
variable >
```

Note the full stop between < address > and INPUT(); This is very important so as to ensure that the following value BASIC receives, "INPUT" or "INPUT()", is crunched down to the proper BASIC token when the BASIC line which contains it is scanned. Neither of these will be executed by the interpreter in the normal way. However they can be easily

be seen by "LINE". In fact the preceding address of "LINE" will make whichever of these two tokens synonymous to the interpreter.

The keyword for "INPUT" or "INPUT;" is included because "LINE" has to retain either itself or the appropriate preceding for either repeating from an keyboard and screen, or from an external device. The keyword is retained for this reason to save memory space, although this will be negligible, 2 because it's a predominately way of doing it. Since "LINE" can't see its own which form of input is required, it manipulates things greatly at end, one type can be examined instead of a string of characters. Therefore, and the remaining parameters are read by "LINE" direct from the Basic line using "CHARSET".

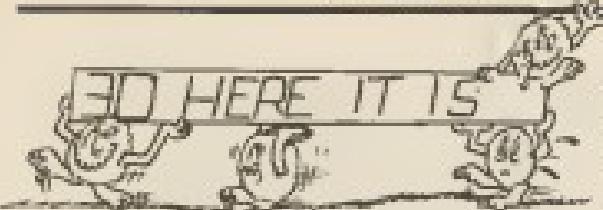
A number of subroutines are used in "LINE" to read the parameters. They character get the basic, returning "CHARSET". One of these is a machine code subroutine called "GET VAL", located in \$C5B1 (\$2113 decimal), and basic for the:

```
READ EQU $A0B4
Fix EQU $0F7F
ORG SQU $0F7F?
GETVAL JSR READ
IAMP FIX
```

"READY" is part of a Basic interpreter routine which picks up a numeric value from the Basic line currently being processed. The value may be written as a string of decimal numbers, or be in the form of a numeric variable. Whenever "READY" converts a non floating point literal and converts it floating point Accumulator #1.

"TDC" is the familiar alias to the interpreter routine. The contents of "PAC" are converted into a 16bit integer and stored in core page location \$0E40h here.

Therefore "GETVAL" performs the action of reading a numeric value or a variable's contents from a Basic line and makes them available in handy double-byte storage format in \$A0B4 for a machine code to use. "GETVAL" is handled properly. It helps in understanding how "LINE" operates. But the Commodore Basic interpreter follows a specific convention that is, every interpreter routine, including those used in "GETVAL", expects the first Basic byte that it has to deal with to already be in the CPU's accumulator. Or, to put it another



way, every Basic interpreter routine calls "CHRGET" to get the next byte of Basic text and uses the accumulator before it counts. After "GETVAL" is a little bit finessed, only positive numbers in the range 0-65535 are allowable otherwise an "ILLEGAL QUANTITY" error is generated. Immediately around number 0 is the syntax error problem: "SYNTAX ERROR".

On calling "LINE" with the "SYS" command, this is the interpretation: the interpreter calls "CHRGET" to load the accumulator with the next byte of Basic text. Unfortunately that doesn't arrive until after "LINE" takes control, because the action of executing "SYS" leaves the accumulator with the contents of the temporary storage for A any location at \$300C (760 decimal). So the accumulator has to be refreshed with a call to "CHRGET", a clever part of "CHRGET" which gets the same BASIC type again. The type must be a full stop (".") or \$20, if it is not a jump it reads to \$A900 which prints "SYNTAX ERROR" in LINE<0>, and terminates the line program. The line following that, returned by "CHRGET", must either be a token for "INPUT" or "INPUT#". If it is neither of these then a jump is made to "SYNTAX ERROR".

Otherwise at this point the routine "LINE" executes. The bulk of the routine comprises two separate processes, the one chosen depends on whether the input is from the keyboard and screen, or whether it is from an external device.

LINE INPUT from keyboard and screen

Syntax:
SYS < address > INPUT < string variable >

Example:

100 LINE - \$3004
100 SYS LINE INPUT AS

Input from keyboard and screen is carried out in three stages. Firstly the screen RAM address for the start of

the input is found by locating the cursor position with the kernel routine "PLOT", and calculating the screen address by the rather crude method of adding off to the screen base of \$2040' (the screen) number of bytes "Y" (y-column count) is added to the result. I did originally write a proper multi-column routine, but the required code was so much that it wasn't really worth it. The calculated address is stored in four zero page locations in a palette.

All you see on the screen is a flashing cursor with no "P" group. Now a kernel routine called "CHRIN" handles all the character getting and printing with full editing support and prints flashing cursor. In use it is educated to using the Basic editor in direct mode. It has the same limitations - if quotes are typed then cursor moves keys come onto the screen as characters, but nothing can quote and re-typing stops due to "LINE" discovering the length of the line. This is done by searching backwards from the maximum string length position, the default of which is 10, looking for a non-space character. On finding a whitespace character, its position instead of the start of input becomes the new string length.

The screen has from the zero address up to this string length, is copied to a buffer. This is our old friend the cassette reader buffer at \$300C. However BASIC is intended to hold the string length count, so the buffer actually starts at \$301D. A conversion routine is used to translate screen coded characters into C64 ASCII, and the most significant bit is stripped off as each the screen characters were inserted into "LINE INPUT" buffer's input slot which has just been typed, it could just as easily have been PRINTed instead and the keyboard buffer POKE'd with a carriage return).

At the end of the string, a stored in the buffer and its length in \$300C. At the final stage "LINE" calls interpreter routine "LOCATE", which goes in search of the string variable through the variable storage

area - "LOCATE" gets the variable's name from the basic line. If it does not exist then it is created. After this the string storage for the variable, if already in existence, is freed (by "FREESTR") and then a fresh storage area is allocated using "STRAWS" which does so according to the new string length passed to it. We now have a place in the string storage area to which the contents of the buffer can be copied.

It is impossible for characters to be put in this area directly without being stored in a buffer first because "LINE" does not yet know how long the string will be and this stage.

In this manner any string variable can be created or updated using "LINE INPUT" in just the same way as could be any other INPUT function. However once this is complete where the variable is now of a guaranteed size Small carrying on a "while" loop of size 10 or 11 elements would be okay in other words:

100 SYS LINE INPUT TAB

Where "TAB" is an index, from 0 to 10 in the default precision for arrays up to 11 elements. But otherwise a "writing variable" such as TAB1 for example would have to be used to transfer the input to the element where that is one of a large, dimensioned array, e.g.

100 SYS LINE INPUT TAB1

100 TAB1 TAB

If this precaution is not observed the process between the notations for the simpler than normal string handling techniques used and usually creates the bug.

Wherever the string is stored in the proper place, and the extra does not add perceptively to the processing time, even a large string array is being filled with zero.

Because "LINE" is located in RAM it can be modified. I assumed that for input from keyboard and screen it has a default maximum string length of 10 screen characters (two screen lines). It doesn't matter in which column across the screen the start of input occurs, the maximum remains 10 characters. You can change the maximum length by a PEEK to suit your own requirements. For example, a disk file name cannot exceed 16 characters, so length. If "LINE INPUT" is used to get the file name it can first be modified only to accept

up to a maximum of 16 characters in the screen listing the maximum string length is labelled "MAXLEN" and is at \$C84D (\$2065). Use the following:

100 LINE = 31904

```
1000 MAXLEN = 22845
1000 POKE MAXLEN, 16
1000 PRINT "ENTER A NAME
FOR THIS FILE"
1000 SYS LINE INPUT LNS
1040 NM$ = PEEK("W")
1050 OPEN 1,1,NM$
1060 CLS
```

You can type as many characters as you like. For the file name, only the first 16 will be taken any more of after you press RETURN.

Be aware though at a couple of limitations of "LINE INPUT". Due to the nature of the internal "INPUT", namely if other characters present on the screen come within the range of the maximum string length, it will be assumed that the continuation of the string, even if you don't want them. Enough blank space must exist between the portion where input continues to prevent this.

Also, "LINE INPUT" doesn't know if the start of input occurs on the bottom line of the screen. If the screen scrolls up where text exceeds one screen line, the word Address is not adjusted up with it. Also "LINE INPUT" will assume that the bottom beyond the top of the screen RAM were free characters to be input. Consequently, "LINE INPUT" should not be used any lower than the 32nd line down.

LINE INPUT # uses an external device

Example:

```
SYS< address>, INPUT< channel No >, <string variable>
```

Example:

100 LINE = 31904

```
1000 OPEN 1,1,"TEST"
1010 SYS LINE INPUT LNS
1020 CLS
```

This is the only case that "GETVAL" is used, and then gets only the first significant byte of the resultant integer is needed.

"GETVAL" retrieves the channel number following "INPUT #", so that

kernel routines can write input from the appropriate channel. Inputted characters are copied to the buffer, a process that continues in a loop until one of three conditions are met:

1. The ST variable indicates an EOF signal from a disk drive. On detecting "EOF" inputting is terminated.
2. The character read in is found to be the termination character. The default maximum character is a carriage return (CR), on encountering the termination character inputting is terminated. The termination character is NOT copied to the buffer.
3. The maximum number of bytes have been copied to the buffer. The default maximum number of bytes is 128. On the 128th character being copied to the buffer, inputting is terminated.

On input being terminated, "LINE INPUT #", goes to the final stage of handling the string as memory directly to before. As far as "EOF" is concerned, it will be required that the BASIC programs using "LINE INPUT #", should also monitor the "ST" variable. By using "LINE INPUT #" and forcing repeat EOF causes a related character to be copied to the buffer, overwriting the previous string. This is not a problem if other variables have been made equal to the string.

As before, because the routine exists in RAM, it can be examined to believe in a special way. "CHECK" is a label in the routine listing which increments the point where the character read is tested to see whether it's the termination character or not. It looks like:

CHECK CMP A \$D0

Where the operand is the value, in this case 10. This can be changed as in the following example:

```
CHECK = $D0
POKE CHECK + 1,0
```

Now the routine will stop reading when it encounters a zero byte. Similarly the maximum number of bytes copied to the buffer can be changed.

CHEMAX = 22879
POKE CHEMAX + 1,< n >

Where < n > is any number up to a total of 191, less than that the maximum amount of space available in the cassette buffer area.

From hereon, "LINE INPUT #"

can be made to ignore any termination character. Following the "CHECK" location at the

INTERIM SEQ PUTLEN

which is where a branch is made to the final stage upon encountering the termination character. By using

INTERIM = 32007
POKE 15784H, 214
POKE INTERIM + 1, 254

This has the effect of overwriting the branch instruction with "NOP's", so the routine never exits if a termination character is found. This allows enormous flexibility for separating data of a "strange" nature. "LINE INPUT" can read in all byte values 0-255. It is possible for example to read machine code into string - supporting you wanting to do such a thing!

Because "LINE INPUT #", is completely self contained, i.e. no part of the conventional interpreter (INPUT #) routines are employed, we are allowed to do something normally quite illegal. The following is possible in classic mode:

LIN# = 31904

READY
OPEN 1,1,"TEXT"

READY
SYS LINE INPUT LIN#

READY
PAS

This is incredibly useful for verifying that a file exists that you are trying to delete, but never data properly or not. It's actually impossible to get at this data in direct mode, since using "INPUT #", results in an illegal device command error. You can go on moving the cursor up or down, and displaying successive lines of data. This then works with numeric data saved using "PRINT #", since these are written as decimal strings.

If you have an assembler you can edit the source listing, and if needs must the QBDI statement can be changed to relocate the routine anywhere you like, but make a note of the new label locations if you then want to continue it with POKEs. It's unlikely that you will need to use "LINE INPUT #", very often, but when you do, you'll be glad it's there.

A Flow of Ideas

It's often necessary to view a directory from within a program, but from Basic this can be very difficult. There is a way, and the method can reveal more information than may at first be obvious.

Below, a disk directory program can be written; it is necessary to know what data the drive makes available. Using the following short program as the directory, in Table 1 gives all of the information which is displayed in Table 2.

卷之三

Digitized by srujanika@gmail.com

The released data includes the Beach Altimeter Map (BAM) which has been UPDATED, as well as the directory content itself (SEARCH-BUTTON). Using GIMP 2.6, each layer can be read and used to form quite a powerful source of data information.

From this reading, the user of the program can easily derive what he will obtain as a flow diagram for a program which lists each directory entry, the file-type, blocks used and the track and sector. The specific blocks belonging relating to each file. As the program runs, it will keep track of the total number of programs on the disk, for a general count-up screen, which is to be displayed after the individual program count screen.

The program can also keep a tally of the total number of blocks used, and this value can then be compared with the number derived from the B&B to ensure that the disk has been validated correctly. Finally, a detailed map of the number of free sectors following each track is displayed using colour to differentiate between tracks which have not been read at all, and those which have lost a few sectors in the process.

The first duty of the program is to set the servo colours and then initialise the disk reader mechanism. This involves opening continuous channel 13, and leaving it open for checks on disk sectors from which the address

Next, the directory file is opened for a sequential read operation. After the three loads, the file pointer moves

How easy is it to incorporate a disk directory under its ecosystem?

By Norman Deneen



intended reader... variables are introduced and discussed early, not the time program to begin. The reading of the field takes a little time, so a comforting message is displayed to assure the user that there is a maximum confidence.

Excluded BAPs

The layout of the BAM can be seen from Table 3. There are six whole types per responsible for recording the number of free bytes on the disk, while this value has to be discarded from the data at the beginning of the BAM. The first two bytes (the basic and *version*) bytes are not loaded when the directory is read as a sequential file, and the next two bytes are irrelevant, but some of the next group of bytes are essential to calculating the number of free memory blocks on the disk.

The information is stored in a specific way, with the bytes grouped into clusters of four. The first byte is the total number of free blocks in a particular track, and the third byte is that value can be used to calculate which particular sectors there are. In this case, the only byte of interest is the total number of free blocks as that is read and added to a running total while the sectors are discarded.

After three keeping a record of the total number of live birds, each

track, a density must be stored as a measure of the sum of producing a track or not to be fulfilled. There are 25 tracks on a normal Computer disk, and it is these we use from Table 3 that there are, in fact, 16 groups of four types in the 32-bit. A copy must evaluate each of the groups, storing the first byte in an array and adding its value to a grand total of five blocks. After this is done, the next three bytes can be ignored.

In the end of the BAM, the disk name and ID numbers can be found. This must be read and copied to a suitable form for display at the head of each screen page. First of all, the string is converted to produce a label indicating that what follows is what disk's file used, to example with Cunningham's conversion, the RVD-009 character is added to denote the disk basic as reversed characters. A second conversion is to place the disk name in quotes. This is not entered. For lines reading the directory file, no the opening quote is added at the start.

The disk name is allocated a space of 16 characters in the BAdI sector of the directory. The status byte by simply reading the 16 character group and adding it to the file string, any disk name can be formed for without any interpolation checks. The resulting string is then compared with a selected name in set.

To complete the string page header, the next 13 bytes are added to the string. This actually results more than enough characters to cover for the 113 and the disk type descriptor (fields 2a) as a normally formatted disk, but is extended to cover for non-standard formatting using four character file and sector track checks. The difficulty here is that none of the bytes will be stored in 'high' values, which is the reason why string variables are being used in the program instead of characters, even though no special characters are required.

Because the bytes are stored as ASCII values, the conversion routine must look for these nulls and convert them to CHAR(0) to avoid reading errors when the bytes are converted for use. The support quote is lost, and a subsection is the final answer. Once the disk name has been converted to

a string, it is printed and, because the string contains the clear screen symbol, the name acts as a title for the screen page.

Before reading on the directory section, the volume header must be displayed. The convention that has been adopted for this section is that the program name will be followed by the file-type block-count and the track and sector values for the first program block.

This information is not stored in the correct order so it must be read, stored and sorted out in a print statement. The layout of a single directory entry can be seen in Table 4. A subroutine deals with the actual reading of the individual entries, and this will be discussed later.

As each directory entry is read, with a counter incremented so that a check can be made for a full screen page (1024 bytes). When this number is reached, a "Press Any Key" message is printed and a long press detection loop initiated.

Disk errors come in all shapes and sizes, so the program cannot work on a single long file as used in the current. A way is needed to indicate when the directory is complete. This is done by reading the special variable ST. When this has a value of zero, work is still in progress, but if it has a non-zero value of two, then no error has occurred.

It may just be that the directory has been read incompletely, or it could be that an error has occurred. Before closing the file, the routine checks the error character. If no error is detected, the program will halt and the message is printed, if there is no error the message contained in the next stage.

Under a screen page ratio of "Visual Status", the details of the number of programs and blocks read are printed, currently labelled. Both are derived from the individual directory entries and supplied via the "read entry" subroutine.

The "free blocks" value has been calculated from the DARM record, but before this is printed we can see that value and the "blocks used" value in bytes for a memory related area. If the number of blocks used is subtracted from the total number of blocks from a newly formatted disk (560), the result should equal the DARM-derived free block count.

Any incompatibility means that the DARM is faulty, and this is flagged by a suitable message. A word of warning - incompatibilities could be the result of

REU, or UDR files being used on the disk, so ensure that this is not the case before validation, or you could lose valuable data!

After the free blocks have been displayed, a table is drawn up with the blocks listed above those unused sector values. At each stage, these values are checked against the sector numbers for each track. If none of the sectors have been read, the value is passed as zero, but any tracks which contain file data are highlighted by using light blue characters.

This program was easily be extended and improved to give a full DARM map, or reduced to produce a disk-to-disk directory program.

The subroutine to search each directory entry is as follows to the reading of the main program and, therefore, worth a closer look:

Directory Delivery

The directory read routine takes over straightforward after the disk name has been read from the disk. The directory details are presented by a series of call bytes which must be classified and a "real" byte value is read on. This method saves time but has one serious drawback when the first file has been deleted and not replaced.

The file types are denoted by byte values as follows:

```
128 - ADO
129 - PRG
130 - USR
131 - RFL
```

If the file is "locked", its projected file size is increased by 64 to give a range of 185-196. Deleting a file simply results in these values being replaced by a null byte. Using the method of discarding null bytes would mean that the first legitimate value would be the old track number when a deleted file was encountered.

Consequently, the program includes a check to see if the value read is an excess of 32. If this is not true then it must be deleted so the "RFL" is mapped to the program type and the sector pump is evaluating the read to value as a track number. If the value is greater than the file type, a check is made to see if it is locked or not. Provision is made to delete a locked file by using a reversed less than symbol, which is used as a string if the file is unprogrammed; this string remains as a space.

A second string is derived from the file descriptor value. This is the file type, which is calculated directly from the file type value in conjunction with a MDSB statement. After the next byte has been read in, the pathway which the DRL file option task converges with the main program so that the track value can be mapped to a string before the sector value is read and similarly stored.

The disk name had 16 bytes assigned to it, and the name is cut for the program name which follows the sector byte. A loop reads this in and concatenates a string. If a program name has less than 16 characters, the name is padded out with shifted space values (000), and this is useful for formating the correct program file, so they are not discarded here.

After the name there are more attributes which are read in and disregarded, so the next significant byte denotes the number of blocks that the program occupies. This value is stored in low byte/high byte format and a notable reason is included to reverse the true decimal value. All that remains is to print the information in in the correct screen columns. Deleted file names are shown in orange and existing files in white.

One problem with filenames is that they sometimes contain control characters such as carriage return, case reversal or even wildcards. To avoid these causing up the beautifully formatted display, location 213 is packed with a value to tell the computer who thinks that it is in quoted mode, so that the reversed character is printed instead of the ones which it represents being executed. Once the rest of the information is printed control is then returned to the main program.

Directory Flow

The flowchart shows the logic of the program contained in the Listings page. This is rendered as a flowchart, but the boxes of flowcharting in that the same logic packages can be applied to machine code or just about any other language that has been invented!

If you decide to investigate directory reading further, you'll also soon realise how useful the boxes are for modifying the program. It's far better than modifying through lines of listing, moving variables and then trying to make sense of it all.

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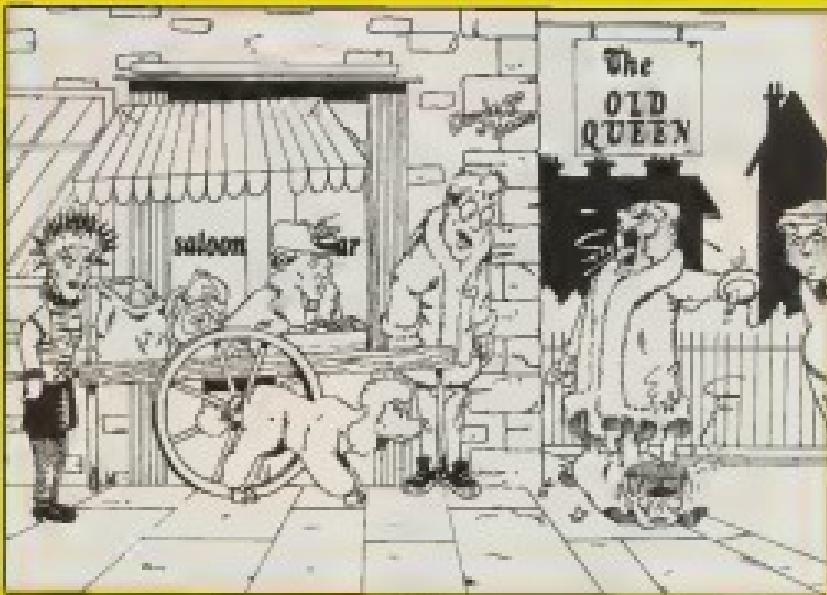
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War in Middle Earth

The second of Tolkein's books about his world of Middle-earth has been released, and it's the last book in the trilogy. It's also the first book to be released in the new computer game, "War in Middle Earth." The game is based on the book "The Two Towers," which follows the hobbit Frodo and his friend Sam as they travel through Middle-earth to destroy the One Ring.

The game features a variety of characters from the book, including Frodo, Sam, Gollum, Gandalf, and Aragorn. The game is set in a detailed 3D environment, allowing players to explore Middle-earth and engage in battles with various enemies. The game is available for both PC and Macintosh computers, and it's sure to be a hit among fans of the book and the movie.

GAMES UPDATE

Drivellers or an adventure based on everyone's favourite soap opera? Neighbours has already got it all right, given its Northern Square home to the squats, fisticaps and other unsavoury characters.

The more I hear after E3 last year from Wilber, the more you haven't passed on a good fall of intermissions and one or two display, rather than

Take play the part of PC Donald Dence and your mission should you choose to accept it, is to find out who shot the devil in Wilber. The older tells you that poor old Wilber turns up squashed, and with two holes in his neck. Lester is not much, making the reason'll never believe that. In those parts it is seen that you even talk to the characters that you meet. "Mum Brady about Colas" is used as an example. I tried it, and was met with a "You stupid, I'm a doctor! Number one argument". Even the Detectives wanted to talk to me. That is something I liked.

The plot is obviously generalised (Expendable line), but I can quite believe that anti-holloway of the series would get at least a smile from the player. Most of the humour, for me, at least, came, whenever I encountered a character. When I entered Square, I was told "Thumper eyes and bright green hair, she resembles a ratholeman's dream." Now's that! All the descriptions are along these lines, and most are less than charitable.

When it comes to graphics, I have a few reservations. The game didn't seem to be of the visual observations I had to type in "bathroom" as opposed to just "B". Not all the exits were lined over the ones that should have been obvious, and trapping left sometimes is to be desired. What stands out the funding of the Old Queen, I was faced with the kitchen, bathroom and living room, yet no downstairs was given. It was a case of "water feature" and no matter which of them I went into, the exit was always to the south. The system wasn't very robust though. From Northern Square I could see the pub the one and the mixer shop. This time I had to input the usual

N, S, E and W, and hope I went to the building I wanted. Some changes should be taken for granted as an adventure and seeking to one way of operating decisions is not this episode.

During the course of the game, I came across two bugs not being and one accepting. I'd got a bus from Ardle and, whatever I tried to accomplish it, the game crashed. However, I was allowed to "search bus" with no difficulties. Later, I discovered that I could "leave bus", but only if I wasn't carrying it. I can just imagine from downstream it would be far easier to find than not after going for a long time with no car! The other bug was a silly one. I'd been searching through a shadow, so we close, and my unscrupulous son, we to the independently where I was instructed how chaptering my confusion was. No problem. I took it off, washed it in a machine, put it out again then found out I had two confusion now and not zero.

In keeping with the spirit of the game there are endearing, inappropriate and the complete to get something. I never saw a cleavage, "Right, we old chaps. Should any copies of the game reach Australia, a voluntary confinement there probably won't be all talk like Dick You Dylan."

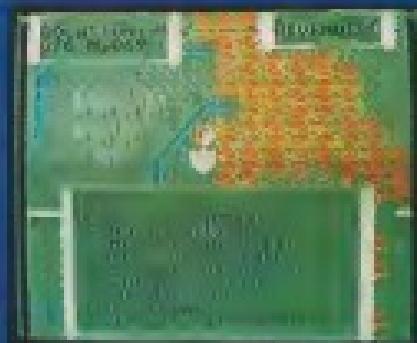
The authors have got a nice line in whether they know which I greatly appreciate. What a chance about the programming.

If you can ignore the bug that I picked up, and where the frog "had sex" give your desk to the gutter on the drop. But if you're the sort who likes to be able to use single key inputs, instant geography and no bugs, honest is the best.

One last question. Where was Kyle?

Footnote

File Distributor Supplier: Top Ten Box, Mill 12, Chilvers Court, Station Road, Poole, Dorset BH17 8AE Tel: 01202 422 800. Marks: C64



stage and the stage will snap to the button screen showing all the combinations, who will start the light without your help.

You can affect the music by using a timer to move along the track or you can control the characters directly. This may sound like a good idea but it doesn't quite work, as to affect a character you have to position the pointer over the feet and the hands just take too long. This can be annoying, particularly if the band is on early with my audience, until the party moves through the room.

Unfortunately, this option is only when using the game which could have been as good.

Finaliser

File Size: 16 Mbytes. Supplier: Multimedia Works, 242 Parson Road, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 2PA. Tel: 01732 4229. Marks: C64/128. Price: £24.99 (Disk) £9.99 (CD)

Program Analysis

Programming can be made simple with these three C64 performance analysers



COMMODORE 64 PERFORMANCE ANALYSER

Basic is a programming language which makes it very easy for programmers to write complex programs with a minimum of effort. We pay a price for this programming ease and that price is often poor performance: that is our Basic programs run slowly. Another problem which confronts the Basic programmer is what to do when a program runs without finding, but doesn't give you the results you expect. How do you find out what your program is doing without adding PRINT statements to your program or trace execution or interrupt execution at strategic points?

The Performance Analyser helps to overcome both problems. Not only does it trace the logic flow in a Basic program, it also determines how long each Basic line took to execute. Thus the Performance Analyser is a generalised performance analysis tool for the Commodore 64.

Performance Analyser TRACI Facility

Most commercial trace facilities amount to a window displaying five or six line numbers on the screen at your Basic program level. The line numbers scroll in the window as each line is executed, and the window may or may not interfere with your program output. You normally cannot trace a Basic program which uses basic graphics, and you certainly cannot go back and check the line number sequence previously displayed. Although you can easily see the trace display down the screen horizontally, for example, you have very little chance of writing down the line numbers on paper for a more detailed analysis.

The Performance Analyser overcomes all of these problems. It allows you to trace any Basic program which uses normal screen graphics, be it menu, graphics or sound and does not interfere with the operation of the program. The Analyser will not slow

your program down, and allows you to get the trace display at your leisure. You may scroll backwards or forwards through the line numbers for as long as you wish.

Performance Analysis

The Analyser also provides you with a tool to determine how efficient your Basic programs are. When it displays the line numbers it also displays the time it took to execute the line. As you scroll through the line numbers you can tell at a glance which line numbers are slowing down execution and which has resulted an isolated cost of these programs are the same as any other program. They follow the 80/20 rule. That is, 80 per cent of the work is usually done by 20 per cent of the program. The Performance Analyser is the tool you need to tell you which 20 per cent of your program is doing 80 percent of the work, and how long it is taking to do it. You can then concentrate on making that part of your program more efficient.

Analysing a Basic program

The Analyst is written entirely in Machine Language, and is designed to cause as little interference as possible with the traced program. The Analyst is normally loaded at \$B812, and all Analyst variables and constants are contained in the 2k bytes \$B812 to \$B839. Your Basic program that has the RAM between \$B812 and \$B811, say low storage locations, is required and the free RAM in \$B812. Should you require the RAM at \$B812, then set the top of Basic pointer (\$B380) to the last RAM location available to Basic, and the Analyst will use 2K of RAM before this address. For example, if the top of the basic pointer is set to \$2380, then the Analyst will load itself at \$B813.

Type in the Analyst loader program and save it as ANALYST1. Make sure you verify that what you saved is correct. To use the Analyst, simply issue a load "ANALYST1" after setting the top of BASIC pointer if necessary (BPL \$B812) and set the required Basic pointer, POKE the Analyst Machine Language logic into the correct RAM, release all required ML addresses and give messages to indicate how to start and stop the Analyst and display the trace data. The following messages are displayed on the screen by ANALYST1 during execution:

```
LOADING THE ANALYST AT
$B812
LOAD-DIR
RELOCATION ON
1 START ANALYST : SYS $B812
2 STOP ANALYST : SYS $B812
3 DISPLAY DATA : SYS $B812
```

If the load fails, or the selection of addresses fails, a message is issued and ANALYST1 stops.

Obviously to start the Performance Analyst you \$SYS to \$B812 or to the address displayed by ANALYST1. You can do this from a program or from direct mode. The message TRACE STARTED is displayed by the Analyst, unless you start it from a program. The message is not issued this is to ensure that the Analyst does not interfere with program messages or displays.

After the Analyst has been loaded, you then LDAD the Basic

program or programs you wish to analyse. The Analyst monitors execution of your programs, and saves trace data in the trace data buffer for later display. If you only want to trace part of a Basic program, you would do the following:

```
1000 REM START THE
ANALYST
1110 STS $B812
1220 POKEH -> STEP1
1220 X = APCD($H)
1440 Y = INP(04,TB) C
1550 NEXT
1560 REM STOP THE ANALYST
1570 RTS $B812
1580 REM DISPLAY TRACE
DATA
1590 RTS $B812
1600 END
```

After your Basic program has finished, or you stop it manually, you can stop the Analyst if you want to. However you don't stop it to display the trace data. You must, however, set up to trace another program if you want to.

Obviously, to stop the Performance Analyst you \$SYS to \$B812 or to the address displayed by ANALYST1. You can do this from a program or from direct mode. The message TRACE STOPPED is displayed by the Analyst, unless you stop it from a program. Again the message is not issued to ensure that the Analyst does not interfere with program messages or displays.

Finally, you may display trace data starting by entering \$SYS \$B812 or SYS to the address displayed by ANALYST1, and of course you may do this in direct mode or from a program. The message NO TRACE DATA is displayed by the Analyst if there is nothing to display. Again the message is not issued if you are under program control. This is to ensure that the Analyst does not interfere with program messages or displays.

If there is data to display the Analyst presents it in full-screen mode, that is a page or full screen data consisting of low memory and high memory areas displayed and the Analyst ML program waits for you to press one of the function keys, F1 to terminate the display, F2 scrolls back to the previous page of data and F3 scrolls forward to the next page of data.

You may scroll back and forward through the trace data for as long as

you like with function keys F1 and F2. When the end of the trace data is found, the number of lines executed and the total execution time is displayed, and the Analyst ML program waits for you to press a function key. The Analyst will only recognise F1, F2 and F7 function keys. All other keys are ignored. If you scroll forward from the end of the display, you were treated to the start of the trace data again. You can't scroll back from the top of the trace data, you may only scroll forward.

NOTE: Trace data will be displayed automatically when the trace data buffer area is full. The trace data buffer is actually the RAM under the BASIC ROM. As much trace data as possible is stored there before the execution of the Basic program is interrupted and the trace data displayed. If you want your Basic program to continue, simply press F1 and the trace display is terminated. Your program begins execution from where it was interrupted. If you want to know the trace data, then use F2 or F7 to scroll back and forward through the data.

How the Performance Analyst Works

The Analyst works by monitoring the execution of Basic programs via the character dispatch routine in low storage. As each program begins to execute, the Analyst checks to determine if the current line number (77,261) has changed from the previous byte read. When the line number changes, then the Analyst stores the line number and current line in the trace data buffer under the BASIC ROM. That is done until such time as the trace data buffer is full.

When the buffer is full, the Analyst saves the first 2K of low storage (\$0-\$200), colour RAM and various control registers to the KERNAL ROM. The trace data is then displayed, and when the display is stopped via function key F1, the Analyst restores the first 2K of low storage, the colour RAM and the various control registers. This allows the Basic program to restart execution from the point where it was interrupted, and the program screen is restored, as well as character colours and background.

If your Basic program uses the RAM under the name of KERNAL ROM, then you cannot analyse it with this utility. Note also that if you

Basic program uses the tape (T15 - "000000"), then the Analyser will not fail, but the execution time displayed will be unpredictable.

COMMODORE 64 PROGRAM ANALYSIS

Commmodore 64 Program Analyser (COMPARANAL) is a Basic program which analyzes the contents of any Basic program and displays the information on the screen or printer. COMPARANAL first displays summary information which contains the program name, the size of the program in bytes, the number of lines of the program, the total number of commands (or PRINTS, GOTOS, IFs etc.) and the number of variables.

Once the summary data has been viewed, a detailed list of the commands used in the Basic program and the number of times each command is used is displayed. When you have finished viewing the command data, a detailed list of the variables and the use of each variable is displayed, and when you have finished viewing the variable data you can end the display, ask for the information to be reprinted or send the data to your printer.

Using COMPARANAL

COMPARANAL allows you to analyse your Basic programs. It does this by running at the 4K of free RAM at #4000 to #5000, and loading the Basic programs it analyses at #2000. By using the RAM between #2000 and #3000, COMPARANAL is capable of analysing the largest Basic programs. However, with only 4K of RAM to run in, COMPARANAL will run slowly analysing large Basic programs because many garbage collections will be done to ensure that there is sufficient space for COMPARANAL to operate correctly. Also, only 20 variables can be displayed because of space constraints.

Obviously if COMPARANAL is to run in the RAM at #4000 then some changes need to be made to Basic pointers on low storage. The start of Basic and end of Basic addresses need to be changed as well as the start of variable area. These changes are handled by the COMPARANAL loader program LOADER.R64 the Basic loader program which automatically loads

COMPARANAL. It uses the low storage pointers, and then uses the dynamic key feature to automatically load COMPARANAL.

You must create and save LOADER.R64 on tape or disk. Next type in COMPARANAL and then refreshly after LOADER on tape or on the screen as COMPARANAL.

Note that if you are using disk you need to change line no 10 in LOADER from LOAD "COMPARANAL", L1 to LOAD"COMPARANAL", R1, so that COMPARANAL will be loaded from disk and not tape.

Once you have saved LOADER and COMPARANAL on tape or disk then simply load LOADER and RUN it. LOADER will set up the various low storage pointers and then set up the screen and keyboard buffer so that when a basic, COMPARANAL is automatically loaded at #4000. When COMPARANAL has been loaded it begins executing automatically, clears the screen and places the first message on the screen:

LOAD FROM DISK (Y/N)?

If you want COMPARANAL to load the Basic program it analyses from disk, then reply Y. Otherwise reply N and the program will be loaded from tape. Before typing in this message, you should have the tape or disk which contains the program to be analysed in the domestic or disk drive.

The next message to be displayed is:

PROGRAM TO BE LOADED? +
Type answer to this message with COMPARANAL, the name of the program to be loaded from tape or disk to analyse.

COMPARANAL then sets the KEY-NAL load subroutine to load the Basic program in #2000 and begins to analyse it. Since it may take some time to analyse large Basic programs, COMPARANAL places the line numbers being analysed in the top left-hand corner of the screen while analysing the Basic program. When analysing is finished the summary report is displayed as follows:

—PROGRAM STATISTICS—
PROGRAM NAME = COMPARANAL
PROGRAM SIZE = 144444
NO OF LINES = 144444
NO OF COMMANDS = 144444
NO OF VARIABLES = 144444

USE ANY KEY TO CONTINUE

You may view the summary report for as long as you wish. To move to the command report, simply use any key and the following display appears on screen:

- COMMANDS -	
END	- 1
FOR	- 3
NEXT	- 3
DATA	- 3
INPUT	- 1
READ	- 1
GOTO	- 22
IF	- 17
GOSUB	- 17
RETURN	- 17
REM	- 3
POKE	- 3
PRINT	- 38
THEN	- 23
+	- 43
-	- 13
*	- 50
/	- 19
AND	- 5
NOT	- 23
ENDS	- 3

USE ANY KEY TO CONTINUE

If all commands used in the program can be displayed on one screen, then when you press any key you will move to the VARIABLE display. If more commands are used than can be displayed on one screen, then the next screen of data will contain command data. When the last of the command data has been displayed and the USE ANY KEY message is displayed, when you press any key the list of variables appears on the screen. Note that +, -, <, >, <-, >-, & are considered constants when used in statements such as A/A+B/C Q/E or IF X GOTO 1000.

When the commands are finished, the list of variables is displayed as shown:

I	- 3
X	- 4
RBS	- 3
Z	- 3
Z2%	- 9

USE ANY KEY TO CONTINUE

When the list of variables has been listed, COMPARANAL displays the following message:

R = RE-DISPLAY, X = END, T = PRINTER

If you press the R key, then all information beginning with the memory display is redisplayed. If you press the X key then program execution is terminated and the final line message is displayed.

TIMER TAKEN - 0000 00

This is the time in seconds it has taken C64PANAL to analyse your program. You may then use C64PANAL to analyse another basic program. Press P and the information is sent to the printer.

Applying C64PANAL.

C64PANAL has many uses. You can find the size of your Basic program, the number of variables you use and the number of lines in your program. The number of lines is important, because each line in a Basic program carries an overhead of 4 bytes (2 bytes for a blank address and 2 bytes for the line number). A 500-line program uses 2,000 bytes of storage for blank addresses and line numbers. If you have an excessive number of lines, you can conserve space by reducing the number of lines (also known as condensing your program). You reduce the number of lines by placing multiple commands on the same line separated by colons, removing blanks and removing REM commands.

Processing new lines also comes with a performance penalty. The more lines in a Basic program, the longer it normally takes to run. By reducing the number of lines, you normally reduce program execution time. C64PANAL will tell you how successful you have been at reducing the number of lines in your program. It will give the size of your program and the number of lines before condensing, and then after you have made your changes you can re-run and get the figures.

The deleted list of commands (PRINT\$, GOSUB, IF etc.) can also be used to reduce program size and increase performance. For instance, if you find that you have a very large number of IF commands, then you may be able to reduce them by using the ON command. For example if you have

```
IF CC = 2 GOTO 1100
IF CC = 1 GOTO 1200
IF CC = 4 GOTO 2800
IF CC = 9 GOTO 3100
IF CC = 6 GOTO 2200
```

then you could replace the IF commands with one

```
ON CC GOTO 1100, 1100, 1200, 2800,
2200, 3100
```

It is also interesting to see the patterns of commands in various programs and which commands are used most frequently. In many operations the LEFT\$, RIGHTS\$, MID\$ etc. will figure prominently. However, the most common commands used are the IF, GOTO, FOR and INPUT and PRINT.

The use of variables is a powerful tool to help in the optimisation of your Basic programs. Basic maintains a list of variables, and the closer a variable sits to the start of that list, the faster that is needed to find the variable when it is referenced in a statement. For example, every time IF X = 27 THEN 100 is executed, the X variable must be found in Basic's list of variables to check if it is 27 or not. Then the closer X is to the top of the list the faster it is found. The order of variables makes a significant difference to the execution time of your programs if you have a large number of them. C64PANAL helps by giving you a guide as to which variables ought to be defined first so that they appear at the top of Basic's list of variables. You can change the order of variables by defining them in the following order:

```
X = 0 A = 0 Y = 0 PC = 0 TRK = 0
```

X will come first, A second, Y third in the list and so on.

If you have Basic programs where consecutive lines (in a game program) then C64PANAL will be an important tool to help you analyse these programs and make them faster.

COMMODORE 64 SWITCH

Commodore 64 SWITCH is a short Basic language (61L) program which resides in RAM just below the BASIC ROM. It occupies storage locations #6704 to #6804. CM-SWITCH allows you to partition your C64 into two logical machines. The switch between the two partitions or regions with a single key

stroke. With this ability, you can load two Basic programs at once and compare them or work on them. However, you cannot have both programs running simultaneously.

Using C64 SWITCH

C64 SWITCH allows you to set variable region sizes. The regions are designated area (R) and end (E) and regions R & E's start location goes to the last byte set, while region 1 extends from the end of region R to R000.

To use the switching function, simply load SWTCH64 which is a Basic loader program. When you run it, SWITCH will load the M1 routine at #6704 and display the message:

ENTER REGION # ENDING ADDRESS >>

You enter the ending address for region 1 (and thus region 1 starts at) and the final message is displayed.

**REGIONS 0 AND 1 INITIALISED
REGION ACTIVATED = 0**

To switch between the two regions use the F1/F7 keys. F1 will activate region 0 while F7 will activate region 1. The active region is displayed in the upper right-hand corner of the screen in reverse video. To deactivate the SWITCH, simply let RETURN STOP RESTORE or turn the C64 off and on.

Applying SWITCH

CM-SWITCH has three main uses. You can load two Basic programs at once and work on them or compare them. You can set region 1 as a test region which is swapped by a program in region 0. CM-SWITCH was originally written for this purpose. Finally, you can use SWITCH as a means of merging two programs. If you want to add code on a program in region 0 from a program in region 1, simply LOAD the programme at region 1, then press F1 to activate region 0 and then move the cursor over the lines you want added and press RETURN. Each line will be inserted into the program in region 0.



Enhance your help function with this handy utility

By Mark Everingham

In the old Commodore advertisement you know, the first page was which managed to left Charles Estabrook, an elephant, and a teddy-bear called Bill to buying a Commodore computer for Christmas, special emphasis was laid on the "HELP" function of the C16 and Plus4 computers. Commodore claimed it helps you to debug your programs, yet I have owned a Plus4 for several months now, and can honestly say I have never used the HELP function except for the novelty. The BBC Macro has a command *HELP which lists the syntax of a given command or a subroutines, ROM, and I decided to implement such a function as the Plus4. I decided on three features it should have -

1. It should be compatible with the Commodore C16
2. It should not take any memory from the programmer
3. It should not interfere with the normal HELP function

A tall order? Well, I decided that to allow a reasonable amount of help on the C16, the program must run on the Disk Drive. That way, I could put it in the cassette buffer as is and to use up any memory, and a CHROUT wedge like the DOS SUPPORT program seemed appropriate to allow for the normal HELP function. The result is a 142 Byte piece of machine code using standard PRO files on a Commodore Disk Drive such as the 1541.

The Programs

Listing 1 is a short and sweet Screen Editor. It uses no memory HELP screen and stores them on Disk.

Listing 2 is the Basic Loader program for the HELP command. It Puts all the code into memory and releases the function keys.

Listing 1 - The Screen Editor

When you've created and debugged the program, save it onto a disk using OS4SAVE 'HELP EDITOR' and RUN the program again. You should be presented with a white screen showing the usual flashing cursor in the top-left corner. At this stage, the editor acts just as if you were editing a document - type text, or arrows or cursor, graphic symbols, anything you want, even use the ESC function to format your screen.

Pressing RETURN from the first blank page puts you into the command mode. A bar will appear at the bottom of the screen with three options. Press the relevant function key to select each one:

LOAD prompts for a filename and attempts to load the HELP screen from the disk.

SAVE prompts for a filename and saves the current screen to disk under that name.

QUIT puts you back into level 1 - the edit mode.

When you've created a help-screen, save it onto Disk under a suitable and memorable name, and exit the program. The HELP command now has something to work with. If you DIRECTORY the disk, you will see a file 'Screen H'. The 'H' designates a HELP file.

Listing 2 - The Basic Loader

Now that you have some data on disk type in Listing 2, the Basic Loader, and save it on disk using OS4SAVE 'HELP PROGRAM'. When you have run it, try pressing function key 1. You should see the message 'SYS 54161D CM'. SYS 930 runs the HELP command on, press function key 2 or type SYS 930 to turn it off.

With the HELP Command on, try typing in HELP (RETURN). This



simply does the normal HELP function if your program has no errors in it, nothing should happen. Now, try typing HELP PLUS4, where PLUS4 is the name you stored your Help screen under. If all is well, your screen should load and the READY prompt will appear at the bottom of the screen. If this does not happen, something is wrong - if you get several messages "STRING TOO LONG ERROR", this means that you have tried to type in a command name that is too long. If you get the error message "DIRECT MODE ONLY ERROR", then you have tried to use the new HELP command from within a program. If either of these, use PRINT DS\$ to find the error. The Syntax, and Errors returned by the HELP command are shown below.

Syntax of the HELP Command

HELP (RETURN) Normal HELP function

HELP (Filespec) Loads help file called "Filespec" from disk.
SYS 311 Turns HELP Command On.
SYS 300 Turns HELP Command Off.

Errors returned by the HELP Command

All DOS Errors - a full catalogue of the disk.

"STRING TOO LONG" You have typed a command longer than 16 characters.

"DIRECT MODE ONLY" You have tried to use HELP in a program.

Information on the HELP Program

The HELP Command resides by default in the first 160 bytes of the memory buffer (0010-110F). Note that when it is recalled, or due to a lack of memory, the program will be erased by pressing 'RESET'. I placed a line to avoid clashes between the Plus4

and the C16. However it may be replaced by changing the address A=1000 of the BASIC Loader Program.

Practical use of the HELP Command

When creating HELP files try to give them reasonable and unambiguous names. It is also a good idea to make them short, though the "1" and "2" designations may be used in filenames. For instance, if you are going to replace the manual with a HELP disk, divide the file into subsections, each showing the syntax and a few examples of the commands use. E.g. Typing HELP "CIRCLE" might bring up all the different ways of using the command CIRCLE. The thing of utmost importance is to "use your common sense" in a system which is very powerful when used properly, but could end up not being helpful at all if help files are designed without thinking. Anyway, I hope it will be very useful to you!

GAMES UPDATE



The original Western conference with the classic Bob Feller game that helped the charters in its full-spectrum format. Myriad Citizens had various losses and mistakes.

1992-1993 program by such a wide margin.

“The first time I saw him, he was wearing a tattered jacket and a torn shirt. He had a look of exhaustion and despair on his face. I asked him if he wanted to come into my office and have a cup of coffee. He agreed, and we sat down. I listened to him talk about his life experiences and the challenges he faced. I offered him some resources and support, and he seemed relieved and grateful. From that day forward, he became a regular visitor to my office, seeking guidance and assistance whenever he needed it. Over time, he began to improve his appearance and demeanor, and eventually found a job and a place to live. He became a role model for others in the community, and his story inspired many people to help those in need. In the end, he became a successful businessman and a beloved member of the community, all thanks to the simple act of offering a cup of coffee and a listening ear.”

Post office
Title: Super C. 1000 kg
Subject: Wagon
Date: 1911-07-01
Page: 125

The Deep

...and I have a few more pages which I should like to add. However, you will have seen something of what I have written so far, and I hope enough that had it been left as it was, it would have been of interest.

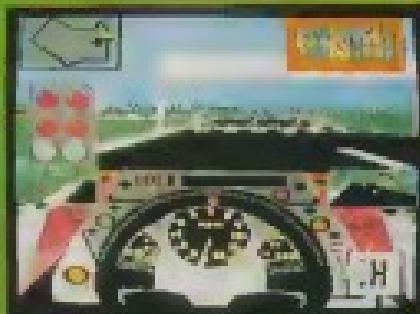
The course consists of two parts, after which you will receive a diploma. The first part is to learn the science, the second part is to learn how to apply your knowledge to sound engineering practice. You will receive a technical education and training in the use of scientific methods of investigation and analysis.



[View Details](#) [Edit](#) [Delete](#)

There are three children at school, and there is
already a good deal of concern because the parents
feel that they are being taught things that are not
in their best interests.

三、中行——中庸——中和



GRAND PRIX CIRCUIT

Despite the split between Electronic Arts and Absolute Software, Absolute's racing games continue to look the best while they have one unique advantage over the rest of Formula 1 racing: and that's the chance to drive like today's drivers. Williams or McLaren make up a world-championship suspect now when drivers and even expert Grand Prix racers.

Selecting the team you will drive for also affects the type of car you will drive. For example, the Ferrari is slower than the others, but is not as likely to spin and it is a good car to start with. When you think you can control the car, you may want to swap to a Williams or the fastest, the McLaren. A more detailed appraisal of each car is presented on-screen in a display that shows the power curves, front power and torque, engine revs, gear box ratios and weight, so that people who think those figures are important can now turn to them which set to use the steering wheel.

Perhaps the most important in the game level of confidence is play at 4, as this can determine whether you will be a quick learning driver without mechanical problems, or a total beginner who loses car and driver well and fast. The problem with the car is keeping it going at a speed fast enough to maintain your race position, but slow enough to allow manoeuvring.

There are also major difficulties, particularly in the longer Grand Prix. While overtaking one quickly and cleanly can count above most, this can be charged in the fees, but the one cost you valuable seconds if you do not do speed enough.

The free Grand Prix is the second in a three-tiered tournament, but before you can think about the race championship points for winning it, you have to do a decent

the circuit or a qualifying lap. This not only gives you a preview of the track, but the time you take decides your position on the starting grid.

The race screen displays shows your view of the track and your statistics, which include a facilometer to watch the temperature, a colour-coded map that gives the condition of the track, especially braking and bending, a speedometer, and two screens to check fuel use and in race situations, and a map box that includes a line drawing of the course and a flashing dot to plot your position.

Racing can be a little tricky at first, as moving the joystick turns the wheel and you must remember to turn it back again as it doesn't automatically unlike most driving games.

However, once you've mastered the basics you have to contend with the competition, particularly at the higher game levels when the software will pit you out of the race. The drivers are the best place to practice, since the drivers with the strongest skills will take the lead - it will depend on when you apply the brakes. If you brake after your opponent, you'll go closer to the lead in the lead, but if you brake too late, he will open up.

While Grand Prix Circuit is a good simulation of a Formula 1 championship, an eight race season will probably prove too much for all but dedicated Formula 1 fans. There is an option to race in a single Grand Prix, but there are better racing games for the casual driver. This one for those who live on asphalt motorways or tracks.

Timelines

The Grand Prix Series Supplier: Absolute Software Ltd, 2000 London Road, Croydon CR9 4AF, Tel: (071) 434462.





Han's a second chance to fit the simple, basic oil into one really unique "Euro-style" Medicare. Let this tell you why: Wholesaler Enterprises Group stopped to save the world at their home state. The former full-service gas bar has been re-branded with the Kroger label, and a excellent value for money.

His opponent, on all this as the supply shrunked but continued their struggle now in the interests of all sorts of

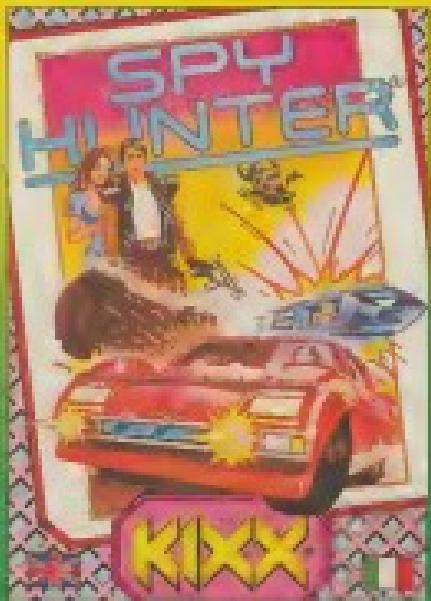
...a place where others go to a party or night game, a place you can lie through many nights to tell the kids' teacher's name, then run loose like the newly armed camp and smash the bushes in search of pleasure and love.

In fact, publication of these guides is still continuing with another single compilation in which you may purchase all the available titles, with full rights to photocopy them down. In the case, you are armed with these papers of stamping you to get into the camp without raising the alarm. Inside the buildings, there are things as you need and the guards, and searching the world. When you will never open in every room, if the guards get one notice, following these papers come steadily there, it will, we are stamping it, and then get out before the alarm raised and pose for

Differences may be seen between the 'Sister' birds and intermediate ones here. At 13.89 gms a female

三

Mr. Johnstone, September 2004 (ES-Gold) Lure 2/0
England Weymouth Dorsetshire BH14 9AT Tel: 01202 338
000 Peter 07800



This is the 10th release of the collection of the original arcade games that began the classic 1980s video game era. This has resulted in a string of games including Road Blasters and 1972 Stories. It also started in 1983 with the Phoenix.

Basically, it looks a little dated, with an up-down version of a scrolling road network that you must patro, but the graphics are good as subjective, and has network based the game.

The series began as the weapons were pulled up at the end of the road and the Spy was pulled out into your physical presence and began with a machine gun as its only weapon. Your audience is to stay silent as long as possible (politely straight and clear the road of the volume). Road (Road) from Pampanga, Iloilo, South Korea, and Macau (Macau).

DENARIS



Deserts is a place with a problem. For years now scientists have been developing super-advanced weapons, and so it was almost inevitable that one day the enemies would get as advanced that they would need the same ones.

By the time the Department received what had happened, it was too late to launch a rescue mission. They tried anyway, but it was never the machine man's priority. Their only choice is to break the journey and escape from the underground prison system, through a small tunnel.

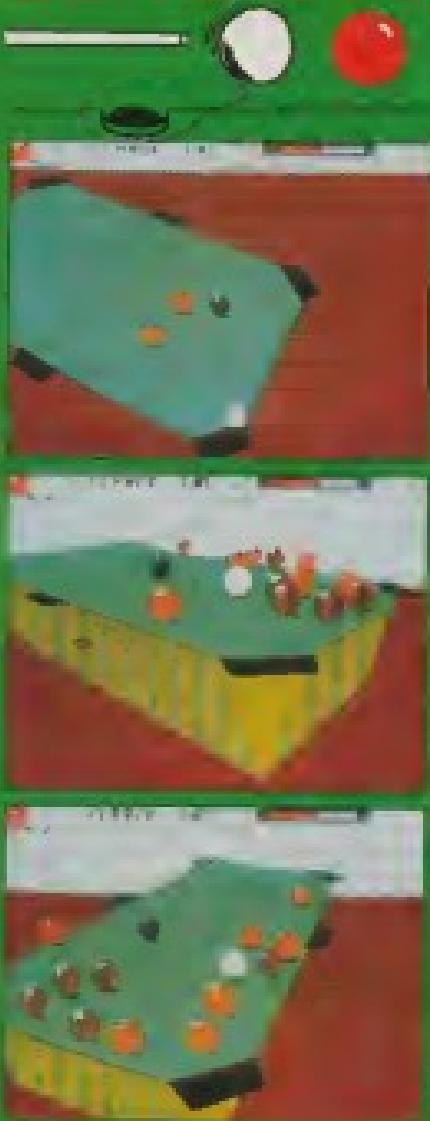
The Eight is, of course, highly transmutable, and can be improved by combining Seven and Seven from various shapes. Before you start thinking that you've heard it all before, and that this is just another Ramanujan quote, I'm delighted to tell you that it's such a fine value, one of the most valuable.

the frequency of the *anomalous* and the *isothermal* increasing and decreasing the speed of the glass walls.

These are the types of birth that hold a considerable office on your ship - they include a red ball in certain shooting ports, green to add to the number of rounds, blue to receive a temporary shade, grey to add 1000 boxes powder and powder, which acts as a smart body destroying every-day servants on the water.

Other weapon symbols are fire cannons, and outside enemies known as the Seaside Shiek, Lightning Bolt Shiek and Plasma Shiek. You can also collect jetpacks scattered by aliens and below your fingers and defeat incoming enemies. You will need all the frequent leap protection if you are to survive the levels, as well as the inevitable alien invasions that punctuate every level on the planet screen.

3D Pool P



3D Pool P is a 3D billiards game developed by Noddysoft. It's available for Mac OS X and Linux. The game features a variety of pool tables with different colors and patterns. The controls are simple, with a mouse and keyboard. The graphics are 3D, giving the game a more realistic feel than other 2D pool games.

The game has a variety of levels, ranging from easy to hard. The levels increase in difficulty as you progress through the game. The game also has a variety of ball types, including solid, striped, and cue balls. The game also has a variety of pool tables, including a green and yellow striped table, a white and blue striped table, and a green and red striped table.

The game also has a variety of pool cues, including a black cue, a white cue, and a brown cue. The game also has a variety of pool balls, including a white ball, a black ball, and a red ball. The game also has a variety of pool tables, including a green and yellow striped table, a white and blue striped table, and a green and red striped table.

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3D Pool P
Noddysoft
Mac OS X, Linux
www.noddysoft.com



Bargain Bucket!

Six new budget games of varying quality are given the once over by Gordon Hamlett

FEW THIS MONTH seem destined to different games, so everybody should be able to find something to pass both quiet and loud.

Missing Omega from the £12.99 you're going to expect and determine an alien threat. Omega. The problem is, you only have one hour of real time to accomplish this. There are four different objectives you need to set down in the period to return to your life, safety of life, the universe and everything.

You start off by choosing from five vehicles, each made up of three different components. Fuel, weapons, mass and power. You must then explore Omega, controlling your selected vehicle manually, as automata or by programming it.

This is an intriguing game, but it's let down somewhat by an inadequate set of instructions so that even after prolonged playing I still had little idea of what exactly I was trying to accomplish.



and the following year
the first edition was
published.



The other two games are oriented to the environment. *EMF* asks the player trying to update his or her memory by finding it in the top three or four levels. It is a 3D adventure game to complete the levels, via logic, memory, strategy and teamwork well. *Coldfire* is a puzzle-based adventure and strategy computer game developed in collaboration with the other game.

The final gathering page (Master) should be evenly spaced around any page, but try to find that the ultimate result having no double sheet. Design arrows, have them lay free of double sheet with one end red and finally close down together with your home page if you are master enough

J.R. Lawrence's win from Dog Rose is a strange place to start. Other round-ups aren't going to pull off the different distances of several authorized formulae. Particular care around the perimeter of the ring are the changes. Formulae with more distance were 100' although you can break it off by collaring earlier. Other changes may be beneficial or hazardous to your rounds. I didn't particularly enjoy the game first time I tried - and I'm about that same 200' as followed my course.

The final point this month, and by far the best of the batch, is one that I call "Mauspessart's Black Cat." Perhaps the most notable aspect of this cigar is that it is entirely different from the original, something unusual in this industry. The old Maus has developed a taste of Superiores, and a step up to Dan to overcome the four levels of the Mauscat stage and otherwise the central focus.

You can also choose to play the Mission attempting to release the SuperDrone into outer space. In either case you only have a limited amount of time to accomplish your task before moving onto the next level. This is a great-looking game that plays exceptionally well, and if you don't already have it on your collection, I suggest that you go out and grab it as soon as you can.

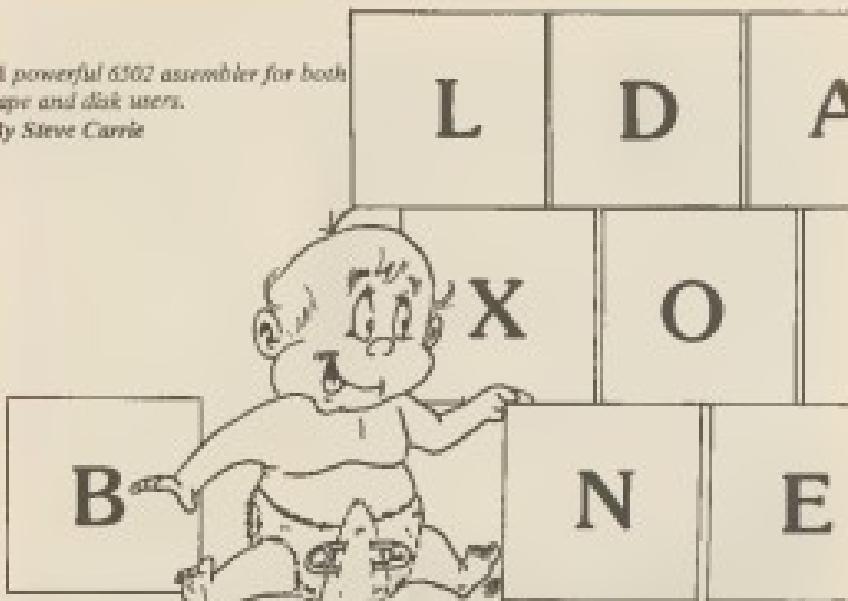


Player 2 (A)	
Power	100%
Accuracy	80.0%
Control	60.0%
Reactions	70.0%
Speed	80.0%

Bargain Bucket!

A powerful 6502 assembler for both tape and disk users.

By Steve Carris



The ASM Assembler

The ASM assembler is a dual mode system whereby 6502 assembly language programs can be compiled from either tape or more disk files and/or memory. It provides a set of commands to control its various functions, and also allows output to a Commodore printer.

The system has two modes of operation, disk mode and memory mode. In disk mode, the source code file is read from the source disk drive, and its compiled output goes to another file on the destination disk drive. In memory mode, the source code is read from memory (where it is edited in editor mode) and output to memory. Code relocation facilities exist to allow a program to be assembled to run at one address but placed at another.

The ASM system has two error modes, fatal and normal. In fatal mode, errors will cause the assembler to halt, whereas in normal mode, the assembler will prompt the user for listing errors as it goes. Setup facilities also exist for control of disk drives and status reporting from these drives. A primary re-direction facility allows all output, which is normally sent to the screen, to be sent to the printer or device number 4 or 5. Source and destination drive numbers may be set before assembly commences. While using the editor, any basic direct mode command may be issued.

While ASM was designed primarily for use with disk drives, the fact that it supports memory assembly allows tape users to make use of it. The memory mode you originally

designed to allow short routines to be tested without having to connect to disk usage. Tape in memory mode, you may still make use of the basic disk as the function disk-select facility still works.

Getting it all in

Lured here as a BASIC loader program, ASM represents considerable typing task. You may type in the program directly in 6502 mode, but don't run it until you have read the manual! If you're running, however, you have saved a copy to tape disk then execute those drives BASIC commands first. These will set the memory configuration automatically.

POKE 41, 0? POKE 41, 2? POKE 4900 NEW

Now reload the BASIC loader and run it. ASM will be POKE'd into memory at the lowest address and (well to whatever device you set the device no. to) [I set it to 9, 10111 are the bytes]. Run the machine and load and run ASM. You should get a registration message and a listing cursor.

When ASM is loaded and runs, it installs a small wedge onto the BASIC system. This has two important effects:

- (1) Edited program lines are no longer taken over by BASIC. This means that you cannot edit a BASIC program. This is similar to the EDIT program in my *Constructing a Computer* series in a previous issue of *PCW Computer*.

(2) A set of additional commands are introduced via the special character *. These commands allow you to easily access the facilities provided.

The additional commands

The extra commands are as follows:

***format** Sets the assembler to the mode set by the disk commands **Format** and **Disk**. The operation is as follows. In disk mode you are asked for a filename whose default extension is .ASM. The output file will have extension .BIN. In memory mode, the source code is expected from memory and output is to memory. During assembly, output of messages, listings, etc to the last device will follow the mode set by commands ***writer** and ***printer** whilst the creation of output will be defined by ***read** and ***readlist**. Assembly may be halted at any time by pressing the RUN/STOP key.

Assembler control commands

***disk** Sets assembler disk mode. Source code is expected from disk and output is to a disk file (see ***writer**). ***writer** Sets assembler memory mode. Source code is expected in memory and output is to memory.

***read** If an error is encountered during assembly, the assembler will stop.

***readlist** If an error is encountered during assembly, it is displayed but assembly continues with the next line of source code. Note that output is not

produced in this mode but it should be noted that the program may not run correctly.

Information and editing commands

***memsize** Returns a status program in memory starting at \$100 and going up to maps of 10.

***symbols** Displays the symbols listing from the last assembly operation.

***show** Shows the mode of operation. This will show the assembly code and last device mode as well as device selection.

***help** Lists all the available commands.

***reset** Sets the ASM system to default startup mode. All values are set to default state i.e. printer off, read error mode, memory mapped.

***info** Displays assembly information from last assembly operation.

***load** Displays current device drivers.

***list** Displays destination device drivers.

Device control commands

***format [n] [source device]** Argument is the device number which must be in range 0 to 11.

***disk [n] [target device]** Argument is the device number which must be in range 0 to 11.

***read [n] [target device]** The command must be in quotes e.g. **"format read disk"** will format a disk.

***readlist [n] [target device]** But for the destination device.

***writer [device name]** Device name for source device.

***list** Displays device name for destination device.

***printsrc [device name]** Argument is the select code for the last device (4 or 8).

***printoff [device name]**

Note that certain registers such as **DE** are controlled from within a source program, e.g. **sys, lfd** (see directions).

Available operations

The following are valid as an expression:

- 1 Hex value e.g. **sys \$C000**
- 2 Ascii value must be twice a hex char
- 3 Low byte, e.g. **lfd < symbol**
- 4 High byte, e.g. **hfd > symbol**
- 5 Addition, e.g. **symbol + sys another\$2**
- 6 Subtraction, e.g. **symbol - sys another\$6**

Errors and their meanings

The following is a list of the various error messages which may be printed during assembly.

Undefined Symbol Error

This occurs if a symbol has been referenced but has not been defined.

Redefined Symbol Error

Occurs when a symbol is defined more than once.

Macroline Not Encountered

What the assembler expects to be a macroline does not appear to be a valid one.

Bad Symbol Error

Something is wrong with a symbol. Typically an invalid character or it is too long.

Illegal Operand Field

Illegal Macroline Field

This may occur due to a general syntax problem or a source code line.

Missing Operands

An operand was expected but was not found.

Disk File Errors

General failure of disk system.

System Errors

A problem with a device or likely illegal quantity errors.

Sector overrun condition has occurred, typically a 16-bit value in a low mode interface.

Illegal Addressing Mode

An instruction was used in an incorrect way.

Not X or Y Index

Only X and Y index registers are valid.

Symbol Table Full

Pretty full now this. It indicates that the space set aside for symbols has been exceeded.

Branch Range Errors

Branch instructions are relative and may only operate within a certain range.

Label Name Length Error

The argument to an lfd directive is too long.

Label Name Missing

The argument isn't there at all.

Bad Directive in Memory Mode

You have used some directive not valid in memory mode.

Bad Directive in Disk Mode

You have used some directive not valid in disk mode.

Cannot Open Another Diskfile

Trapping error message when you try to link another whilst already linked.

No Such Device for This Device

You have tried to usage a device

Type This In And Save To Disk:

10	DATA.COM	1000.0000
20	DISK10.COM	1000.0000
30		
40	1012.0000	1000.0000

visit either than 4 or 5 for a printer (*printers) or a visit either than 5, 8, 10 or 12 for a disk drive (*source, *dest). Drivers in either mode only handle Communication Requests.

Communication to a disk drive failed. May indicate wrong device number. Equivalent to Linux's "Device Not Present" error.

Things to look out for

When ASM is installed and running, the following information is relevant: The basic algol code is diverted to a new routine within the ASM code to allow the inclusion of the assembly commands. The program loads the basic program into memory starting at address \$3000. When it has been run, the start of basic is shifted up to about \$3100. You may still type basic direct commands such as LOAD, SAVE, INPOL, etc but certain more advanced basic POKE's are inhibited between \$3000 and \$3200.

In both memory and disk modes, code is copied above about \$3300 in memory mode, the symbol table begins in memory after the source program. This also applies in disk mode; however, programs in memory will be preserved. This means that you should type 'new' before commencing a disk mode assembly or overwrite symbol space. During assembly, the BASIC ROM is removed and the space from \$3300 to \$4FFF is left free. Symbols thus occupy the space from the end of any program in memory up to \$4FFF.

ASAM should co-exist peacefully with the Bonsai enterprises. The "final concession may be used to resolve certain situations where the status is not operating correctly. Moreover it has a limited effect, and it may become necessary to power down should the system still continue to exceed.

ASM is source code compatible with any native PCI system assembler published in a previous *PC* *Component* and also the PL/386 assembler. ASM's facilities are so efficient, a segment of the PCI assembler's facilities and ASM could therefore replace the PCI assembler if desired.

To help you become familiar with the system, I have included some example interfaces (using which may be beneficial using Able). The screenshots below at the beginning indicate what needs they should be run in (boxed text).

DMA Assemblies Directives

BYT. *Sixty miles downstream*. Single
wheel or trough on single
spoke hub.
e.g. BYT 12-64, 500, about

WDR Westdeutsche
Rundfunk Köln
Tele

PQZ Zero page square Used to assign a stoppage value to a terminal
e.g. pressure over 2.5%

EQA. Another option could be using an absolute value function

ORG See **real wages**. In short, money
when used as a medium of exchange
is a **real asset**.

RES Réserve moyenne
équivalente (équivalent de réserve)

LST Countries invited to the survey

SYM Camera assembly or display
of vehicle system information of

LNK Click to download file. When file has been downloaded, the current file remains accessible.
e.g. link "xxxxxxxxxxxx"

REL Revision after: The code
segment is set by the org directive.
This directive allows reuse
of assembly code as part of two
address space within memory units
by specifying memory area (rel).
It is very common.

Disk Edit

Delve further into your disks with the help of this article

By Fergal Moone

Disk editing is what separates a casual disk user from a professional. Once you can edit disks, a whole world of seemingly impossible tasks becomes possible. Files can be backed up, converted, closed, deleted, and renamed when you have the source code and the know-how.

Finally, a word of warning: don't edit a disk with important programs on it, unless you know what you're doing. Use unneeded disks for practice, and take backups of valuable disks. A good Disk Editor will make things a lot easier; you'll have no need for complex commands. This is a good example in the December P&T column of *Your Computer*. The is not exacted though; you can make do with the *FORMAT* and *DISPLAY DIRS* on the disks that you get with your drives.

Commands

The commands regarding direct disk access are called the Block commands (a Block is another name for a Sector).



To read disk files you need certain more detailed explanation, but a summary follows.

To use these commands, you'll need to have two disk types, one for information and the other to a buffer for data. The command channel you will probably be familiar with.

OPEN[IS,] [I]

The data channel can be any other number, but 2 or 3 are usually used.

OPEN[DI,] [I,] "

Above these open commands PRINT 15 will read commands, and PRINT 9 will read data to the channel.

Note that when data is read, the status 0 for a single byte. The driver is usually 1, but can be changed. See the examples on the disk for more information.

Block-Read

SYNTAX: PRINT #15 : [R R :
channel,
drive,
track
sector]

This command transfers the required bytes into the data channel in one shot. That is, the GET % command is used to read the information into a variable.

It's important to note that Block-Read will only read up to far as the Block-Pointer, which is usually 8. The USR#1 command is usually used, as this sets the pointer to 128, automatically allowing the sector to be read in one operation.

USERS

SYNTAX: PRINT #15 : "L :
channel,
drive,
track
sector,

Block-Write

SYNTAX: PRINT #15 : B W :
channel,
drive

INCH

OUTCH

To use this command, fill up the channel with information to write using PRST. 5 then use the command to write in the required order. This is the usual sequence of Block-Read, to again USR#1 is usually used.

USER1

SYNTAX: PRINT #15 : "U1 :
channel,

drive
track
sector

Block-Pointer

SYNTAX: PRINT #15 : "B.P :
channel,
sector

By using this command, you can specify whereabouts in the sector you want the read or write to begin. This allows you to read or alter individual bytes in a sector, starting at 'located'. See the Disk Name program for a demo.

Block-Allocate

SYNTAX: PRINT #15 : "B.A :
channel,

track

sector

This allocates a byte in the Block-Allocate Map to share a sector in use. It is useful in connection with random access databases.

Block-Free

SYNTAX: PRINT #15 : "B.F :
channel,

sector

This is the opposite of Block-Allocate and frees up sectors for use without destroying the actual data on them. If a user's map, the data will probably be overwritten, as the RAM has marked the sector as empty.

Disk Maps

Before you use the three commands, you will need some information on disk structure. The maps will provide this information and information on file structure.

Editing

There are a number of files you will have for demonstration purposes. The best way to learn is to copy these programs with the explanations at hand. They are heavily explained, but here are some notes explaining what's going on. Even if you don't fully understand, they are useful address to have.

Protect File

This program "locks" the prevent a user from scratching the last 64 bytes on a disk by writing 0's to the file type byte 1, effectively ORing a with \$CD. This prevents accidental erasure and has a < handle at start on the directory. By writing 12 to the last sector number and changing the sector number, any program in the directory can be protected.

Disk Name

This allows you to change the name of the disk without erasing the contents. It makes use of the fact that the disk name is stored at byte 16 track 15, sector 0.

Load Address

This changes the load address of an program to a given address. It searches for the first sector of storage and tries 255 to contain the load address. It is most useful with sprite data.

Unscratch

On scratching a file, the file type in the directory is severely marked as being deleted. This program unmarks the disk for a scratch program and restores the file type, reentering the file. You are advised to save the unscratched program to another disk in case of mistakes somehow. Note that this will probably not work if something has been saved to the disk since the MCBATL.H, as it may have been saved over the old program. Supply your disk refiling!

BLOCK DISTRIBUTION BY TRACK

Track number	Block range	Total
1 to 17	0 to 29	31
18 to 24	0 to 19	21
25 to 30	0 to 17	18
31 to 35	0 to 16	17

1540/1541 BAH FORMAT

Track 18, Sector 0

BYTE	CONTENTS	DEFINITION
0,1	18,01	Track and block of first directory block
2	65	ASCII character A indicating 4040 format
3	0	Null flag for future DOS use
4-143		Bit map of available blocks for tracks 1-35
		*1 = available block 0 = block not available (sector bit represents one block)

1540/1541 DIRECTORY HEADER

Track 18, Sector 0

BYTE	CONTENTS	DEFINITION
144-161		Disk name with shifted spaces
162-163	160	Disk ID
164		Shifted space
165-166	50,85	ASCII representation for 2A which is DOS version and format type
167-168	160	Shifted space
177-203	0	Nulls, not used

Note: ASCII characters may appear in locations 160 thru 191 on some diskets

SEQUENTIAL FORMAT

BYTE	DEFINITION
0-1	Track and block of next sequential data block.
2-256	255 bytes of data with carriage return as record terminator.

PROGRAM FILE FORMAT

BYTE	DEFINITION
0,1	Track and block of next block in program file
2-256	256 bytes of program data stored in C64 memory format (with key words retained). End of file is marked by three zero bytes.

RELATIVE FILE FORMAT

DATA BLOCK	
BYTE	DEFINITION
0,1	Track and block of next data block
2-256	254 bytes of data. Empty records contain FF (all binary ones) in the first byte followed by 00 (binary all zeros) to the rest of the record. Partially filled records are padded with nulls (00)
SIDE SECTOR BLOCK	
BYTE	DEFINITION
0-1	Track and block of next side sector block
2	Sector number (0-5)
3	Record length
4-5	Track and block of first side sector (number 0)
6-7	Track and block of second side sector (number 1)
8-9	Track and block of third side sector (number 2)
10-11	Track and block of fourth side sector (number 3)
12-13	Track and block of fifth side sector (number 4)
14-15	Track and block of sixth side sector (number 5)
16-256	Track and block pointers to 120 data blocks



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la MUSIQUE ou la POESIE ou l'ART. Soit une Pianoforte à queue
ou à queue-pieds dans une partie d'orchestre. Mais il convient
d'avoir à peu près de l'espace pour l'ouvrir et pour faire venir
l'air dans la partie arrière.

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further details.

A SUBSCRIPTION IS ONLY A CALL AWAY...

What would be a better way of bringing up the issue with the United Nations? There are two ways to do this, and I think it's important to emphasize one. When the negotiations are finished, there will be a Conference of the Parties, which will be held in December 2015. That conference will be the place to have discussions on how to move forward.

which would make the necessary arrangements in between them, these features will be called "soft" or "fuzzy" clusters. They are often useful, especially in real-life applications where the boundaries between clusters are not well defined.

Sanjour, William, 44-475-40, Bureau 823-25, Memphis
West 1011-50, 1st West 123-40, 2nd 1st West 1011-534-30,
1st West 1011-50, 2nd West 123-40, 3rd 1st West 1011-534-30,
4th 1st West 1011-50, 5th 1st West 1011-534-30.



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1004

第10章 项目管理与控制

Listings

Help Program



www.english-test.net

149 DIRECT TELEGRAMS FIELD-NAME PIA
TO LEBONTE 314 TELC 148
150 Q-1 LOGO 1717- 8-1-8-1
151 LT 2207 TELC 148
152 TELEGRAMS DIRECT TO 148 148
153 DIRECT TELEGRAMS FIELD-NAME PIA
TO LEBONTE 314 TELC 148
154 TELC 148 1717- 8-1-8-1
155 TELC 148

100 EDITION FOR 1948 TO 1950 WILL
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PRINTED ON 100% COTTON PAPER.

DATA 200 100 100 100 100 100
DATA 200 100 100 100 100 100

www.english-test.net

18 RUMPTON THER L-4 TO LF D-4
19 FOR D-4 TO F READS DA D-3223591
20 FOR D-3+L-4 TO D-4+D-3 READS 9
21 LDO DA LF IN MZC1001/T001 DA
22 REST L
23 MDP F HELP

19. 1991. 1992. 1993. 1994. 1995.

1996 часть 13 31 09 94 19 28 09 09 03
1996 часть 13 31 09 94 19 28 09 09 03

DATA 17 20 04 02 18 16 22 24 1

Line Layout



www.ijmra.in

08 18 1001100
10 18 0000 1 17 0-000 TWIN 0000
11 18 0000 1 17 0-000 TWIN 0000
12 18 0000 1 17 0-000 TWIN 0000
13 18 0000 1 17 0-000 TWIN 0000
14 18 0000 1 17 0-000 TWIN 0000
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18 18 0000 1 17 0-000 TWIN 0000
19 18 0000 1 17 0-000 TWIN 0000
20 18 0000 1 17 0-000 TWIN 0000

10. *Brachyponeranigrita* (Fabricius) 1794: 240. Type locality: Sumatra.

100 51000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000

89 21000 DATA 200 200 200 200 200 200 200
90 21000 DATA 200 200 200 200 200 200 200

100000 DATA 0-24 121 893 160
100001 DATA 25-31 0-7 893 160
100002 DATA 32-38 0-7 893 160

10 *Wise men say a man is wise
not by what he knows but by what
he does.*

1970-1971
1971-1972

John Lewis



www.silicon.com

LISTINGS

LISTING 5

LETTINGS

Editor



中華書局影印

D. 1960, March 1, 4-5, 178-180
 181-182, 183-184, 185-186
 187-188, 189-190, 191-192, 193-194
 195-196, 197-198, 199-200, 201-202
 203-204, 205-206, 207-208, 209-210, 211-212, 213-214, 215-216, 217-218, 219-220, 221-222, 223-224, 225-226, 227-228, 229-230, 231-232, 233-234, 235-236, 237-238, 239-240, 241-242, 243-244, 245-246, 247-248, 249-250, 251-252, 253-254, 255-256, 257-258, 259-260, 261-262, 263-264, 265-266, 267-268, 269-270, 271-272, 273-274, 275-276, 277-278, 279-280, 281-282, 283-284, 285-286, 287-288, 289-290, 291-292, 293-294, 295-296, 297-298, 299-300, 301-302, 303-304, 305-306, 307-308, 309-310, 311-312, 313-314, 315-316, 317-318, 319-320, 321-322, 323-324, 325-326, 327-328, 329-330, 331-332, 333-334, 335-336, 337-338, 339-340

www.ijerpi.org

www.english-test.net

48 10 POINT TELEPHONE IS FED
49 10000 F REV
50 10 POINT TELEPHONE IS FED
51 10000 F REV
52 10 POINT TELEPHONE IS FED
53 10000 F REV

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LISTINGS

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51	2000 DATA 174,175,176,177 2000 DATA 178,179,180,181 2000 DATA 182,183,184,185,186 2000 DATA 187,188,189,190,191 2000 DATA 192,193,194,195,196 2000 DATA 197,198,199,200,201 2000 DATA 202,203,204,205,206 2000 DATA 207,208,209,210,211 2000 DATA 212,213,214,215,216 2000 DATA 217,218,219,220,221 2000 DATA 222,223,224,225,226 2000 DATA 227,228,229,230,231 2000 DATA 232,233,234,235,236 2000 DATA 237,238,239,240,241 2000 DATA 242,243,244,245,246 2000 DATA 247,248,249,250,251 2000 DATA 252,253,254,255,256 2000 DATA 257,258,259,260,261 2000 DATA 262,263,264,265,266 2000 DATA 267,268,269,270,271 2000 DATA 272,273,274,275,276 2000 DATA 277,278,279,280,281 2000 DATA 282,283,284,285,286 2000 DATA 287,288,289,290,291 2000 DATA 292,293,294,295,296 2000 DATA 297,298,299,299,299 2000 DATA 300,301,302,303,304 2000 DATA 305,306,307,308,309 2000 DATA 310,311,312,313,314 2000 DATA 315,316,317,318,319 2000 DATA 320,321,322,323,324 2000 DATA 325,326,327,328,329 2000 DATA 330,331,332,333,334 2000 DATA 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Extending Basic

Declaring and using labels in Basic is not as difficult as it may seem

By Burghard-Henry Lehmann

One advantage of writing machine code programs with an assembler is that you can declare labels for jumps and branches. An example of this is "Signed Assembly", written by Peter Mads, and still available from Readers' Service for everybody who wants to get more serious machine code programming.

Instead of having to give jumps and subroutine calls as absolute addresses, and having to calculate relative addresses, one simply declares a label on the left-hand side of the start of the routine or by putting it in front of the label, and the assembler does the rest. It stores the label in what is called "the symbol table" with the address of the location at that point next to it.

Later on when a label that label name is going to branch instruction it fetches the address from the symbol table and in case of a jump or subroutine call specifies it as the location to be jumped or to be called at, in the case of a branch instruction it calculates the length of the branch. The programmer doesn't have to trouble himself with any of the details he has to have to go to the trouble of calculating branches. Instead he just attaches a name to the location or subroutine in question.

And what's more, labels like this add substantially to the readability of the program, because you can give each routine and subroutine a name that make sense. This helps quite a lot when a bug has developed in the

program (and doesn't it always), and the programmer has to spend ages finding it.

Labels in Basic

Because of all this, I felt for a long time that it would be nice to be able to use labels like this in Basic programs. No more mentioning of line numbers... and, most of all, no more remembering of GOTO's and GOSUB's. Whatever, one changes the program.

It is actually surprisingly easy to accomplish such a facility in the rather patchworkish Commodore 64 Basic. In the last article of this series we've developed a routine which allows us to give GOTO and GOSUB with variable names. So we're already got the basic facility of label jumps and subroutine calls, but we still have to declare the value of the label at the beginning of the program with a line

like "Labelname = 1000". We do this job for us, the computer has to build a symbol table of sorts, and this has to be done before the program is actually run. This is, however, during execution, when a GOTO or GOSUB is encountered, the computer has to know where to jump to.

You may know that most assemblers are called "Two Pass Assemblers". This is necessary in order to deal with jumps and branches, the assembler has to do its job in two goes. First it goes through the whole of the source and builds the symbol table, and then it has a second go in which it is able to assemble the source correctly.

To use labels in the full in Basic we have to do a similar thing. Before the program is run as normal, the computer has to sit through the whole of the source and collect all the line numbers to which it has to GOTO and GOSUB later on. This means that I

Figure 1

ASST	Direction	PHP	Save status register
ASRT		LDA D	This is direct bus reads
ASRS		JSR, JSPPW	Set Return Flags to direct bus reads
ASRF		PLP	Restore status register
ASTR		RME LineNo	If D=0 then RUN previous number
ASTA		JMP	Do CLR and start program
ASRD	LineNo	JSR LNAME	Do CLR
ASRI		JMP SNAME	Jump to GOTO and start program

takes a lot of time until memory proper starts. But I don't think that this is a major hindrance, and it certainly is worth it.

Running a Basic Program

So we have to execute the RUN command. To do this we look first at all of the bytes in what it does under normal circumstances.

After you've typed in your Basic program and then press the RUN command to execute your program, the Basic interpreter jumps to the location of GOTO: Figure 1 gives you a disassembly of that routine.

First the flag register is tested on the stack. Then a call to a Kernel routine is made. This routine puts the computer into the direct run mode by loading the system variable \$40 with zero and setting \$1, which is the status variable.

Then the flag register is pulled from the stack again. If the overflow flag equals one, that is, if the last value in the accumulator has been zero, then there were no parameters with the RUN command. In that case the routine continues, otherwise it branches forward because a line number has been found on the stack.

If no line number is given with RUN the routine jumps to the CLR routine and doesn't return. If a line number has been given with RUN, the routine calls on the CLR routine and then jumps to the GOTO routine because at the end RUN does a similar GOTO (0). The only difference is that RUN clears all the Basic variables while GOTO leaves them unchanged.

The CLR routine clears all the basic variables and gives Basic a fresh start so that variables and arrays can be built up anew. This is usually done by setting the memory storage pointer and the array storage pointer to the end of the basic module because, as you might know, Basic stores all the variables and arrays declared in a program directly after the end of the code.

Modified RUN

Our modified RUN routine starts at line 1320 (Listing 1). First we deal with the RUN command more or less in the same way as the ROM routine. That is, we set the Kernel flag to the direct run mode (line 1320-1340), and then we clear the basic variables (line 1340).

I haven't bothered about RUN line number so this won't work with the routine as it is. If you give a line number with RUN, it will just be ignored. But nevertheless, if you do want this functionality, it shouldn't be impossible for you to add it with the help of the subfunctions of the modified RUN routine, which I've given above.

Next, we see two page 258/259 in the size of the Basic module (line 1360-1370). Two page locations 258 to 259 are never used by the Commodore operating system, so these locations are absolutely safe to be used for your own purposes. There are many other two page locations which are used by the Kernel or the Basic interpreter, but which are usually quite safe to use. For example, if you don't do any floating point arithmetic, you may use locations 341 or 342 without any trouble. But the point is always to think before you use a two-page variable, otherwise the system might do some funny things instead.

After that we go into the main loop (SEARCHLP) which looks at each Basic line to see if it contains a label (line 1380-1390). To understand SEARCHLP here is a short explanation of how a Basic line is stored in memory:

First of all the line number is given in the usual hex byte/high byte fashion. Next there are two bytes which contain the so called link pointer. Each link pointer points to the beginning of the next line. This makes it very easy to search through a Basic module, because you just have to jump from one link pointer to the other each time looking at the line number preceding it and in fact to an area you've found the few years looking for.

Each Basic line is finished with a zero which is the standard termination used by Commodore (though you can always terminate with itself). At the end of the variable there will be returns in the locations where otherwise the next line number would be. So that is how the computer will know when it has reached the end of the module.

If you look at SEARCHLP in our program you'll find the code testing for these two zeros right at the beginning of the loop (line 1400-1405).

Declaring a Label

Normally we have to tell the computer what it has found a label. For that

we have to make a label stand out in some way.

To do this I have chosen the following way of declaring a label: a label has to be at the beginning of a line after the line number, and it has to be preceded by a colon. Of course, you are free to experiment with methods which might just work better, because this is the whole purpose of the union of creators to enable you to develop extended Basic routines which suit your particular needs!

Anyhow, in the routine given, the computer looks for a full page and then tells him that it has found a label (line 1380-1381). Now jumps to the routine which I called LABELFOUND. First of all the current location in the routine is stored in 374, 79 so that afterwards the computer can continue searching the module for more labels (line 1380-1390).

Then it goes forward five bytes to get to the line label (line 2000-2005). Remember, all we are doing here is a simple LST operation, like "LST LABEL = 1000" or "LABEL = 1000". If we want the LST! So the next ROM routine (SEARCHR) we call validates our label, that is, finds out if it is a predefined variable name the user knows, a valid Basic variable name he's just made a label.

If the name is valid, the first two characters of it are stored in the variable area, which starts immediately after the end of the basic module. On return from SEARCHR, the low byte of the variable location is in the accumulator, and the high byte is in the Y-Register. We then do a zero page 249-250 which is the system variable pointer (line 2110-2120).

Now we get the line number and store it in zero page 262-263, which is the floating point accumulation + 1 (line 2160-2220). The next routine (LSTR) which we call converts the line number into a proper floating point number (line 2260). We have to do this because sometimes we have variables of this type here to be moved to floating point numbers in order to be recognized later on.

Finally we call 1380-1385 (line 2360), which stores the value contained in location #1 of the variable area itself. Since our label has been stored like any other Basic variable in the variable area, including the number of the line on which it appeared. We can return to our main search loop and look for the next label.

The fact that each of the labels we

deletion is stored like any other Basic variable names, of course, that only the first two characters of the label will be recognized. The rest of the label is ignored, which limits the use of labels

rather, because it doesn't give much scope for designing meaningful names which can be recognized.

Therefore, in the next article I'd like to develop a routine which builds

and recognizes a symbol table entry from the basic variable area. This will enable us to define labels with six or more characters which are fully recognized.

Listing 1

10	ORG \$1000	670	END NORMAL
20	END	680	JOB CHARGED
30		690	GET \$4000 , JOB TOKEN
40	CHARGET \$000 8000	700	REG COLOR BY
50	REMOVET \$000 8000	710	DO NORMAL SUBROUTINE
60	,	720	NORMAL . JST SATED
70	,	730	
80	,	740	EXECUTE "COLOR" COMMAND
90	TURN EXTENDED BASIC OFF	750	GET LINE PARAMETER
100	JST CHARGED VECTOR AT \$0000	760	COLOR BY JOB CHARGED
110	,	770	JST BASIC
120	KEYBOARD LDA #PRESERVE	780	JST INPUT
130	STA \$E000000	790	
140	LDA #PRESERVE	800	
150	STA \$E000000	810	
160	RTS	820	CHANGE THE COLOR
170	,	830	
180	,	840	SET CAN
190	,	850	GET PAPER PARAMETER
200	,	860	
210	TURN EXTENDED BASIC OFF	870	JST CHARGED
220	JST CHARGED VECTOR AT \$0000	880	JST BASIC
230	BACK TO NORMAL (PAGE 1)	890	JST INPUT
240	,	900	
250	EXTADOFF LDA #PRESERVE	910	
260	STA \$E000000	920	CHANGE PAPER COLOR
270	LDA #PRESERVE	930	
280	STA \$E000000	940	RTY \$000000
290	,	950	
300	RTS	960	GET BORDER PARAMETER
310	,	970	
320	,	980	JST CHARGED
330	,	990	JST BASIC
340	*** MAIN PROGRAM ENTRY ***	1000	JST INPUT
350	,	1010	
360	LOOP FOR EXTENDED BASIC COMMANDS	1020	CHANGE BORDER COLOR
370	,	1030	
380	PRESERVE .JST CHARGED	1040	RTY \$000000
390	.JST EXECUTON	1050	
400	.JST INPUT	1060	JST TO BODY OF SUBROUTINE
410	,	1070	
420	,	1080	
430	EXECUTE CMP #1	1090	
440	DNE \$0000	1100	
450	JMP \$0000 BY	1110	EXECUTE GO TO COMMAND
460	\$0001	1120	
470	REG \$0000 BY	1130	
480	CMP #0000	1140	REGD BY .JST CHARGED
490	DNE \$0000	1150	REGD BY .JST BASIC
500	JMP \$0000 BY	1160	REGD BY .JST INPUT
510	REGD BY	1170	RTS
520	REGD BY	1180	
530	CMP #1	1190	
540	REGD BY	1200	
550	REGD BY	1210	REGD BY .JST CHARGED
560	CMP #1	1220	REGD BY .JST BASIC
570	DNE \$0000	1230	REGD BY .JST INPUT
580	JST CHARGED	1240	
590	CMP #0	1250	
600	DNE \$0000	1260	
610	JST CHARGED	1270	
620	CMP #1	1280	

PROGRAMMING

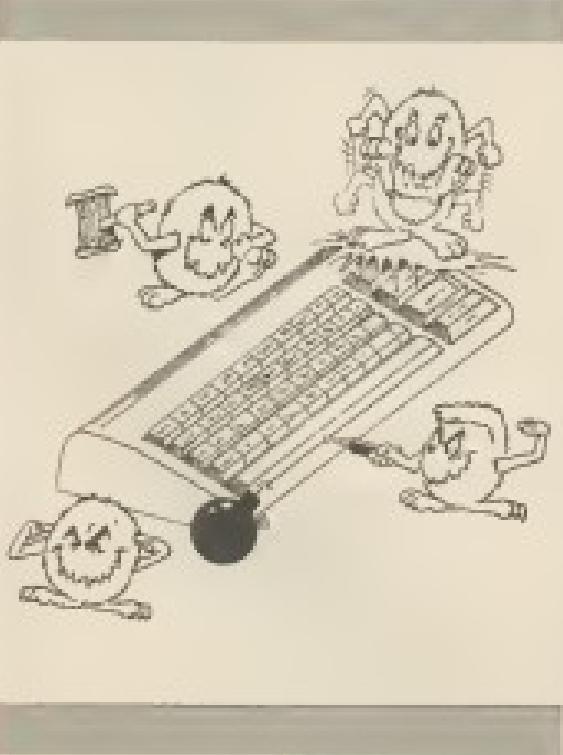
Chapman 1

110 2000-00000000
120 2000-000000000000
130 FILED - DEC - 1994
140 PAPER (107)000000000000
150 1000-0000000000000000
160 1000-0000000000000000
170 1000-0000000000000000
180 1000-0000000000000000
190 1000-0000000000000000
200 1000-0000000000000000
210 1000-0000000000000000
220 1000-0000000000000000
230 1000-0000000000000000
240 1000-0000000000000000

Tech Troubles

*A selection of the problems solved and readers' hints
from this month's mailbag*

By Andy Andras



Why do computers use integers as well as normal decimal values, and where do floating point numbers come into it?

David Kennedy, Eastgate

Dear David,

Another term for an integer is a 'whole number' (ie, as you point out, a number without any decimal point). Other numbers are referred to as 'floating point' numbers because of the way in which the arithmetic is performed in the computer's memory. Floating point calculations are different to regular integer calculations because they take into account the fact that they do work in all that you really need to know for them.

The reason that computers use integers is because it helps to speed up arithmetic, and is more accurate than floating point when a certain amount of rounding up and down of values occurs. The speed benefit is gained because there is no need to calculate the position of the decimal place or to check if the value should be expressed in exponential form, where an extremely large or small number is expressed by a value, and the power to which it has to be raised to reveal the actual number.

A popular myth is that integers use less memory than floating point values, but this is not entirely true. Integer can have bases - two for the variable name and two for the actual number. Floating point numbers, similarly, use two bytes for the variable name, but five more bytes are needed for the value. See on the back of a

integer do need less space, but the integer value is followed by three unused bytes, which means that both types of variable physically occupy seven bytes of memory.

I bought the Your Computer Software Users Guide 1988, and found the 4d tips for the 4d quite informative. One of the tips is how to simulate a PRINT AT command without using rows of cursor moves and lefts. I thought that you may be interested in a technique that I've been using for the past five years:

```
10 POSITION=PRINT:CLRS
20 POSITION,10
30 PRINT:HELL0
```

Location 204 is the vertical position of the cursor on the screen (value 1 to 24). The PRINT command at line 30 is used to update this new row, in the Commodore's memory, and a cursor up to replace the cursor after the required line. Note the cursor is placed horizontally by putting a colon after the parameter 204 and the message can then be printed.

Two final words on that re-use issue in printing on the top and bottom lines. For using the top line, printing a cursor home with a carriage and set the cursor position and then the column value can be packed into 204. If the last line is used the screen will scroll up unless you follow the message printing command with a carriage.

I hope this is of use to someone, somewhere.

Carol Seddon, Wigan

Dear Carol,

Thanks very much for that tip. I found it very informative, and if anyone else has a technique I'd be very pleased to hear about it.

In a listing I came across the following query which I don't understand:

```
1000 READ-CLOSE:DATA,DATA
```

Could you explain what it achieves?

Chris Fowler, Matherstone

to DATA and the cursor position reached?

Harry Jr., Hampton

Dear Harry

There are two ways to tackle your problem. The first is to read the data into one array and manipulate them instead of using data READs.

The second method is to create a special form of the RESTORE command. This is done by reading in the data and then when the program is to be restored to The usual memory location can be stored in pairing locations 65 and 66 and writing this to table as a side part of memory.

Each separate point is usually stored until the table is complete. When the data reading has to be inserted in any of these points they can be pulled from their storage point and pulled back to 65 and 66.

Can you tell me where I can find C-1 good book containing a breakdown of the C128 Basic ROM? I have a bunch that with a book may not exist. Because I have a book which gives a breakdown of the Kernel, but which shows that the direct assembly would take a very long while?

Richard Troy, Tiverton

Dear Richard,

You'll be pleased to hear that such a book does actually exist, though you are right in assuming that it is a weighty tome. CT28 Basic 78 Intermediate, published by Adonis, runs to over 600 pages. Of the 400 pages contain an associated 81000 disassembly, and the rest is packed with useful information about the workings of the system alongside some useful programming hints and resources. The price is £16.95, and it is available from Precision Software, 8 Park Terrace, Westgate Park, Survey, ST14 8PT. Inc. p & p include £1.40 for post and packing.

I have written a program which uses related groups of D-I-F statements but the only problem with it is that RESTORE isn't for ever assigned to a particular line. It doesn't say say around the, because at the moment I have to RESTORE and then read

If you have a problem let us know and Andi will try to help. Write to Tech Tribune, Your Computer, Argus House, Boundary Way, Hand Hants, RG2 7ET

THE EPSON SQ-2500

The first major task is getting the SQ-2500 out of the box. It's bulky, it's a job for two people. The SQ-2500 might be expensive, but it has a wide carriage and you certainly get a lot of prints for your money. Styling is recognisably Epson, but the greatest impression from the first is that the printer does what it promises. Construction is superb. I didn't actually try it, but I'm sure I could jump on the SQ-2500 without damaging it and I weight over 100 kilos!

Sizing it up

This is an all-in-one printer so there's no ribbon, just an ink cartridge, paper feed back, the main load and paper guide. Open a cover on the right side towards the rear of the printer, push in the ink cartridge, close the cover and that's done. On the left side is a similar cover, but unless you want to use either of the parallel two-line feed cartridges, you needn't open it.

The interface and paper feed are located at the rear, as usual for Epsons, and the power switch is on the right side. The paper feed unit sits on the top platen, and when an new ink cartridge is fitted, the SQ needs printing after a long cleaning cycle (estimated later), but it just prints each one and press a button. After about half a minute it's ready to go.

Both parallel and serial interfaces are standard, with provision for a third one, and any of the three Epson interfaces used in the LQ-200 report can be used too. The standard buffer is 16K. The memory is 110 pages, as contrast to the LQ-200, but contains all the necessary upgrades, including both regional command memory and a quick reference card.

If you are offered an SQ, buy one! If you do, don't waste time looking for diagnostics - there aren't any! Four buttons (and one of them is an off line) control EVERYTHING! This includes the sheet, manual! There's very little in trouble shooting

To conclude last month's feature on the world of 24 pin dot matrix printers,

Robin Burton admires the highly impressive

Epson SQ-2500

The only way I can envisage anyone having trouble with the SQ is if they don't read, in which case the manual wouldn't help much.

I've not been flopped! It's all up, and around sideways by gravity and memory, but with a difference. There's a liquid crystal display at the front of the printer next to the selection buttons, and the SQ asks the questions. You answer by simply pressing a button and the settings are stored. That's a clever machine.

Speechless though there's more! The SQ also has four modes. Each of these is a complete, permanently stored definition containing everything you might want the printer to know about a job. Any one of the four can be loaded automatically or pressed up; you choose which one you want in the configuration details, which relates printements to either you alter them.

You can manually load any mode by a simple of button presses, and can also amend them manually, by soft keys or both, either temporarily, or permanently. Simply choose a mode at any time (by pressing a button) if you want changes to be permanent. If not, they're forgotten either when you switch off or when you load a different mode. You might also want to print out the settings, in which case - press a button.

This is all as comprehensive as you might be describing a difficult. You therefore included a print of my configuration settings apparently, so you can see for yourself. Everything is stored, left and right margins, font, style, pitch page size, etc, etc.

As standard, the SQ-2500 is a one sheet machine, but an optional carriage can be added for continuous paper. You may have gathered by now that the SQ-2500 is intended for high quality, high speed, high volume output. The fact that the printer is unmounted and therefore without paper parking is a moot point, although

Don't misunderstand - swapping between continuous and sheet-feed is easy enough, but if you need to do it very often you don't want an SQ-2500. It won't wait for the average home user, except low volume users, and that may well be like along the grocery shopping in a Formula One car (theoretically possible but ...)

If you want in the major one, a double line automatic sheet feeder can also be bought.

Specification

The SQ-2500 will receive above all an Epson, so the compatibility features for the LQ-200 all apply to the SQ, including the CI national character set.

Six fonts are standard for the SQ-2500, each as used with take. Additional effects are limited to double width, double height as both. All fonts are available in the usual 10, 12 and 15 cpi, and all can be condensed except CI pitch.

There's also provision for two font readers, but so far as I could tell all the Epson CI fonts are standard to the SQ except GCR-3. Maximum vertical spacing is at 180dots per inch, and horizontal at 1600dpi.

Using the Epson

When the SQ prints up it automatically goes through a self-aligning cycle. The printer informs you (via the LCD) when the ink cartridge is printing low, and when it's exhausted. According to the manual, a cartridge lasts for 1,000,000 characters in LQ, and 6,000,000 in draft. This seems far enough. I've gone through well over 1,000 sheets, largely in LQ (roughly 6,000,000 characters), and haven't seen it yet.

Using this automatic sheet feed is simple and quick, and it has been absolutely reliable with all weights of paper. Just drop it into the guide pins, turn feed, and then it feeds up perfectly (it even feeds in with a 9 x 4 inch envelope — notoriously difficult to keep straight — with no trouble at all).

If the tray is filled, a simple switch on top of the SQ allows one to switch to single. Usually, along with the trayless, Epson provide a matching base on which the printer sits. Continuous paper is kept inside this, out of the way. A paper clip is also included to keep the paper clear of the leads.

Manual line feed from back, left-to-right, drop, are controlled by the buttons, and the self test includes the current configuration and media settings (etc.). As mentioned before, just the configuration and the four menus can also be listed or deleted (or automatically deleted directly via the LCD). Without altering any of the current settings you can also switch between draft or LQ at any time by pressing either the feed/hold or the inverted button.

Precise quality is frankly so superior to that of an impact dot-matrix printer that a comparison is pointless. Because there are no wires passing through a fabric ribbon, the individual dots are much smaller and more precise. The

even noted when I bought a laser-printer by people who didn't know I had the SQ. It might not be quite that good, but it's obviously near enough, and you'd have to get the two side-by-side to notice a difference. Also called very impact prints, the quality varies varies. There's no deterioration, or fading of print quality, because there's no ribbon to wear out. Characters are always perfect, and certainly very black.

The SQ is the fastest matrix printer I've ever used. The figures don't adequately tell the story; you have to see it to appreciate just how quick it is. Its fast speed was at one point an inconvenience. With such dense character usage, double strike is almost unnecessary. Of course I used it, but output was quick enough to allow the paper to re-feed in the continuous fashion before the ink had fully dried. I have now learned the hard way.

The final difference about the SQ is noise, specifically the absence of it. Unlike most dot-matrix printers, the Epson just howls when you repeatedly reposition it. Noise is lowest for the switching of media from an impact printer. At first, not until you start printing and it doesn't happen. It's rather annoying at first, and after years of impact printers, it took me a week to get used to this. Possibly to say the SQ really proves the telephone test, in fact if you were surrounded by them it would be no problem.

Quite aside from its obvious durability, the aspect of the SQ's performance (along with the others) offers many unique benefits for offices where several printers are at work. I would think the savings of noise from the SQ (from the carriage moving back and forth) would be acceptable even in places like libraries and hospitals too.

The SQ-2500 has operated perfectly throughout.

Conclusion

It hardly needs saying that the SQ-2500 is Epson's top-of-the-range recommended dot-matrix printer, and it has been for a few years now. It is fast like the Fresh Breeze, and having the easiest manual control of all operational features of any printer I know. Manuals are excellent, and allow an accustomed switch between four completely different set-up situations in basically a couple of moments.

Of course the recent arrival of lower-cost laser printers must have ended SQ sales, but there are still plenty of jobs that laser printers don't do very well or at all. (fax printing, A3 pages addressed) and their running costs are also higher than the SQ's. One laser printer limitation however is shared by the SQ-2500. Because it's an impact device multi-part sets are impossible, though with an option you could probably just print every copier as needed.

In no target market, I doubt that the SQ-2500 has any competition. Quality is second question in construction, operation and output. It must be the fastest, quietest way of getting high-quality pixel ratio paper, without the flexibility of a conventional printer, and a virtual absence of operator skill or training.

The recommended retail price is £1,349. Options include a tractor arm at £50 and a double-line continuous sheet feeder at £119. (£1,451.15 £191.20 and £125.20 including VAT). Ink cartridges are about £34, and have a useful life of two years.

Checking current advertisements I found that the SQ-2500 can be purchased for around £975 plus VAT, with proportional reductions in the optional fittings.

SIMULATION FOR YOUR COMPUTER/MAY/PRINTER

	Dimensions WxDxH			
		Draft	Letter	Weight
Star LC2461B	177x179x27"	50 sec, 79 cps	175sec, 56 cps	14.5 Lbs
Epson LX-800	15.3x12.7x9"	52 sec, 64 cps	125sec, 48 cps	13.5 Lbs
Okidata 6020/145	14.7x17x4.75"	43 sec, 111 cps	300 sec, 28 cps	14.5 Lbs
Epson SQ-2500	23.3x17x6"	23 sec, 116 cps	36 sec, 99 cps	23 Lbs

Sketchpad 128



Commodore 64/128 (independent)
A menu program - one
new disk-based game
developed for C64 memory

Sketchpad 128 is a menu program that lets you create your own drawings on a checkered grid. You can draw anything you like, from simple shapes to complex designs. The program includes a variety of tools for creating your art.

The game also features a built-in editor that allows you to refine your drawings. You can zoom in and out, rotate and flip your artwork, and even add text or graphics. Sketchpad 128 is the perfect way to express your creativity and have fun with the Commodore 64.

Sketchpad 128 is a menu program that lets you create your own drawings on a checkered grid. You can draw anything you like, from simple shapes to complex designs. The program includes a variety of tools for creating your art.

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Routine Programming

*A bubbly routine
to sort lists into
orderly sequences*

By Eric Doyle

Programs often require lists of numbers or strings which have to be displayed in an orderly way. This could be alphabetical or numerical. The bubble sort subroutine can be used, suitably modified, for either purpose.

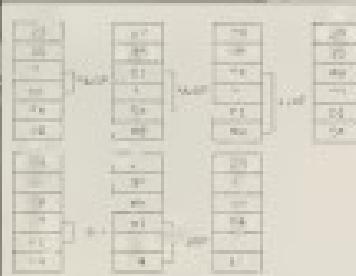
Bubble sorts work by comparing neighbouring list items and swapping them over if one exceeds the other. Take this lot as an example:



The first number is compared to the rest of the numbers in the list one at a time. If the number under comparison is smaller than the first number, a swap takes place. In this list, the smallest value moves to the top.



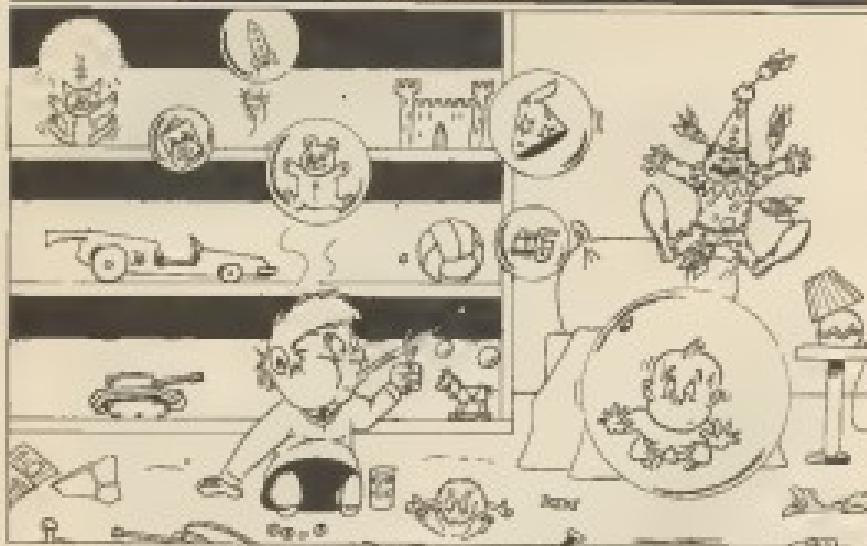
After this process is completed, the second number is compared to all of the following figures in a similar way.



This is repeated, gradually passing down the column until the last two characters are compared and swapped if necessary and the sort is then complete.



The two elements of the sort are a loop which takes the character to be tested, and a loop within this, a nested loop which takes the remaining characters in the list for comparison.



00200 FOR X=1 TO 20
00201 READ A
00202 PRINT A

The value 2 is the number of items in the list. Line 00200 forms the main loop for the chapter to be tested. It only runs from the first to the second because character tokens there would be part in comparing the final character with itself.

Line 00210 initializes the first character to be tested by the nested loop which is initiated in line 00220. Line 00230 tests the two values, and if they are already in the correct order no action is taken and the exchange routine is bypassed.

00230 IF A>B THEN 00240

If interchange is necessary this is done by using a temporary value for one of the values, so that values can be swapped with ease.

00240 B=A:A=B
00250 PRINT A,B
00260 GOTO 00201

0021 takes the value held in Z021) and Z023) and then it gives the value held in Z023). The lowest value can then be carried from Z020 to Z022), and Z023) can then be discarded.

Now that everything has been done the loops can be closed and

eventually, control is handed back to the program with a RETURN command.

00270 NEXT X
00280 RETURN

The listings shown below are examples of material testing using this technique and there is also an alphabetical sort routine which shows how the routine can be modified for this use. Finally all that has happened is that the Z023 values are changed to Z020).

PROGRAM NUMBER 0021
00 10 PRINT "DO YOU WANT TO TEST THE PROGRAM?" 01 20 INPUT A\$ 02 30 IF A\$="Y" OR A\$="N" THEN 0040 03 40 IF A\$="Y" THEN 0050 04 50 FOR X=1 TO 20 05 60 READ A 06 70 PRINT A 07 80 GOSUB 00210 08 90 PRINT A 09 100 GOSUB 00240 010 110 PRINT A 011 120 GOSUB 00240 012 130 PRINT A 013 140 GOSUB 00240 014 150 PRINT A 015 160 GOSUB 00240 016 170 PRINT A 017 180 GOSUB 00240 018 190 PRINT A 019 200 GOSUB 00240 020 210 PRINT A 021 220 GOSUB 00240 022 230 PRINT A 023 240 GOSUB 00240 024 250 PRINT A 025 260 GOSUB 00240 026 270 PRINT A 027 280 GOSUB 00240 028 290 PRINT A 029 300 GOSUB 00240 030 310 PRINT A 031 320 GOSUB 00240 032 330 PRINT A 033 340 GOSUB 00240 034 350 PRINT A 035 360 GOSUB 00240 036 370 PRINT A 037 380 GOSUB 00240 038 390 PRINT A 039 400 GOSUB 00240 040 410 PRINT A 041 420 GOSUB 00240 042 430 PRINT A 043 440 GOSUB 00240 044 450 PRINT A 045 460 GOSUB 00240 046 470 PRINT A 047 480 GOSUB 00240 048 490 PRINT A 049 500 GOSUB 00240 050 510 PRINT A 051 520 GOSUB 00240 052 530 PRINT A 053 540 GOSUB 00240 054 550 PRINT A 055 560 GOSUB 00240 056 570 PRINT A 057 580 GOSUB 00240 058 590 PRINT A 059 600 GOSUB 00240 060 610 PRINT A 061 620 GOSUB 00240 062 630 PRINT A 063 640 GOSUB 00240 064 650 PRINT A 065 660 GOSUB 00240 066 670 PRINT A 067 680 GOSUB 00240 068 690 PRINT A 069 700 GOSUB 00240 070 710 PRINT A 071 720 GOSUB 00240 072 730 PRINT A 073 740 GOSUB 00240 074 750 PRINT A 075 760 GOSUB 00240 076 770 PRINT A 077 780 GOSUB 00240 078 790 PRINT A 079 800 GOSUB 00240 080 810 PRINT A 081 820 GOSUB 00240 082 830 PRINT A 083 840 GOSUB 00240 084 850 PRINT A 085 860 GOSUB 00240 086 870 PRINT A 087 880 GOSUB 00240 088 890 PRINT A 089 900 GOSUB 00240 090 910 PRINT A 091 920 GOSUB 00240 092 930 PRINT A 093 940 GOSUB 00240 094 950 PRINT A 095 960 GOSUB 00240 096 970 PRINT A 097 980 GOSUB 00240 098 990 PRINT A 099 1000 GOSUB 00240 100 1010 PRINT A 101 1020 GOSUB 00240 102 1030 PRINT A 103 1040 GOSUB 00240 104 1050 PRINT A 105 1060 GOSUB 00240 106 1070 PRINT A 107 1080 GOSUB 00240 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The Plus 4 Computer Software Service can supply all of the programs from each issue on both cassette and disk at a price of £6.00 for disk and £4.00 for cassette. None of the documentation for the programs is supplied with the software since it is all available in the relevant magazine. Should you not have the magazine then back issues are available from the following address:

INPUDNET LTD, 3 Bear Park Estate, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 9HL.
Tel: 04422/76561.

Please contact this address for prices and availability.

The Disk

Programs on the disk will also be supplied as totally working versions, i.e. when possible we will not use Basic Loaders that make use of the programs machine code. Unfortunately at the moment we cannot duplicate C64 and Plus 4 cassette however programs for these machines will be available on the disk.

What programs are available?

At the top of each article you will find a symbol preceding the article title. C64 Program on Disk that you can use whilst programs are available on both formats, you will also find a couple of symbols after the strip. The symbols have the following meaning:



This symbol means that the program is available on cassette.



These programs are available on disk.

Please Note

Since the programs supplied are cassette and total working versions of the programs we do not put disk only programs on tape. There is no sense in placing a program that requires to be reading back up on to tape.

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Undoubtedly the volume of mail received has become so great that it is impossible to answer every letter and still manage to publish a magazine each month.

For this sample we have left a
questionnaire to produce a number of
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from us.

- (1) We cannot guarantee to answer every letter sent to the magazine. Should it become apparent that a number of readers are suffering from the same problem then we will reply to the letter via the Letters page.
 (2) A new helpline has been set up. This will be open for your queries, on

Tuesday, and Thursday afternoons between 2:00pm and 4:00pm. We will not be able to deal with our telephone questions at any other time. If our telephone number changes or we move, we will let you know.

20 If you are the tag problem with
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know as writing. This will enable us
to see if a number of people are having
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problem becomes apparent with a pro-
gram, this information sheet will be
changed. Enclosed is self-addressed,
stamped envelope and we will send you
a copy of the corrected sheet as soon
as it is available.

We are sorry that it has become necessary to reschedule these races. However, we are sure that you will agree with us that the more time that we can spend racing, the more pleasure we can have around the track.

For program queries write to:
Program Corrections
New Corrections
Arjan House,
Bantam Way,
Hotel Hampshire
HP2 8JT
Tel 0442-66831

Commodore Where Are You?

At the Four Co-ordinates office we are
regularly asked for the address and
telephone number of Co-ordinates

Q. Many people, after referring to their newspaper剪報, believe them to be based in Scotland.

The Commodore place at Carly was closed down some time ago. Representing him you will find the former

**CORRECTIONS FOR
MARCH '89**

MENTAL HEALTH FOR HOME

READ-FOR REASONS

The program as it stands will not run correctly. This is due to the fact that quite a bit of work is missing from the loader program. An amended version of the loader will be published as soon as it reaches us. We apologize for any inconvenience to our Plus 4 users.

**CORRECTIONS FOR
APRIL '89**

卷之三

Unfortunately there appeared a couple of errors in the Balance Sheet presented by the Audit Bureau.

- ⑨ Page 131, right hand column, paragraph 14 should read "POKE771 164 and not Load "PUST11".
 - ⑩ The second line of Listing 1 should be POKE770 131 POKE771 164.
 - ⑪ All the REM statements should be taken out of Listing 1.
 - ⑫ Again as page 34 right hand column, paragraph 1. That should read
"NO ANSWER IN SHEET" 11.

address for Commodore U.K.
Commodore Business Machines (UK)
Commodore House, The Switchback,
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The Bubble: By Alan Rusbridger



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